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SEX ED.



Women say NY agency let sex harassment go on for years

This Feb. 13, 2019 file photo shows the New York state Capitol building as seen from the steps of the New York state Education Department Building, in Albany, N.Y. Associated Press

By DAVID KLEPPER
Associated Press
GLENS FALLS, N.Y. (AP) — One woman says a male co-worker at her state job grabbed her head and forced it between his legs.

Another woman says the same man exposed his penis to her while she worked in her cubicle. A third says the man pulled her into a small room, unzipped his pants and said, "Why don't

we just get this over with?" All three told The Associated Press that no one did anything significant about their complaints against Chad Dominie for at least two years, until one of the

women said he grabbed her by the arms and threatened to sexually assault her in October 2017. That accusation prompted a call to police and a harassment charge against Dominie,

an administrative assistant in a small office of a New York state agency that helps the disabled.

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U.S. hits Venezuela officials with sanctions for blocking aid

By **MATTHEW LEE**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration imposed sanctions Friday on six high-ranking members of the Venezuelan security forces and revoked the visas of other officials and their relatives in the latest effort to pressure President Nicolas Maduro into leaving office.

The sanctions are in response to the blocking of humanitarian aid convoys last week while the visa revocations on dozens of individuals are intended to punish people who have flourished amid the South American country's dire economic crisis, Elliott Abrams, the special representative for Venezuela, told reporters.

"Maduro supporters that abuse or violate human rights, steal from the Venezuelan people or undermine Venezuela's democracy are not welcome in the United States," Abrams said. "Neither are their family members who enjoy a privileged lifestyle at the expense of the liberty and



The United States special envoy to Venezuela Elliott Abrams looks over the room before the start of a Security Council meeting at U.N. headquarters, Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019.

Associated Press

prosperity of millions of Venezuelans."

The measures were the latest by the Trump administration to increase the international pressure on Maduro, whose re-election last year is seen as illegitimate, to resign and turn power over to the opposition leader Juan Guaido, who has been recognized by the U.S. and 50 other governments as interim president.

The State Department later said that the U.S. had revoked the visas of 49 people, making them subject

to deportation if they are in the country. It placed an unspecified number of others on a visa restriction list. The U.S. already has travel bans on other high-ranking Venezuelan officials connected to Maduro who are accused of committing human rights abuses or corruption.

Separately, the Treasury Department imposed financial sanctions on six officials from the National Guard and police who are allied with Maduro. These officials played a role in

closing Venezuela's borders with Brazil and Colombia to prevent the entry of assistance from countries opposed to Maduro's continued rule.

Maduro's forces fired tear gas and buckshot at activists trying to deliver humanitarian aid in violent clashes on Feb. 23, leaving two people dead and about 300 injured.

Friday's action targets six security officials "who control many of the groups that prevented humanitarian aid from entering Venezuela, thereby exacerbating the humanitarian crisis that has left millions of Venezuelans starving and without access to medical care under the Maduro regime," Treasury said in a statement.

The sanctions block any assets they have in U.S. jurisdictions and bar Americans from conducting financial transactions with them. Those targeted are Richard Jesus Lopez, the commander of Venezuela's National Guard; Jesus Maria Mantilla, the commander of Venezuela's Strategic

Integral Defense Region Guayana; Alberto Mirtiliano Bermudez, the general in charge of Venezuela's Integral Defense Zone in Bolivar State, which borders Brazil; Jose Leonardo Noronom, the general in charge of Venezuela's Integral Defense Zone in Tachira State, which borders Colombia; Jose Miguel Dominguez, a national police commander in Tachira; and Cristhiam Abelardo Morales, another commander in Tachira.

The men are part of security forces that have remained loyal to Maduro and are essential to his hold on power in the once-prosperous country.

Guaido had announced that last weekend's attempt to deliver U.S.-supplied humanitarian aid from Colombia into Venezuela would be politically decisive, but Maduro called the aid part of a scheme to overthrow his government. Maduro has denounced his opponents as killers and criminals in fiery speeches reminiscent of the style of his predecessor and mentor, Hugo Chavez. □

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House Democrats won't restore 'earmarks'



In this Feb. 11, 2019, photo, House Appropriations Committee Chair Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., speaks to reporters as she arrives for a closed-door meeting at the Capitol as bipartisan House and Senate bargainers trying to negotiate a border security compromise in hope of avoiding another government shutdown on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

By **ANDREW TAYLOR**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats controlling the

House have announced that they won't restore the much-criticized practice of "earmarking" federal funds

for back-home projects that Republicans banned eight years ago.

House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey — who wants to restore the practice — announced the decision in a letter to her colleagues, saying there isn't a "bipartisan, bicameral agreement" to bring earmarks back.

Earmarks used to include grants for community development projects, roads, university grants, and help for home-district military contractors, among others. But critics thought too many projects went to a handful of powerful lawmakers and fostered a "pay to play" culture in which campaign contributions were often solicited from lobbyists and others who sought earmarks. □

HARASSMENT

Continued from Front

Dominie has acknowledged engaging in "locker room" behavior — "I tell her to 'shut her whore mouth' and I'm the big villain?" he said — but denied exposing himself or threatening or touching anyone inappropriately. He has been suspended from his job without pay since his arrest, pleaded guilty to a harassment violation — less than a misdemeanor — and paid \$120 in court costs. To date, he remains a state employee, pending the outcome of a disciplinary proceeding.

"This has to stop," said Mary Tromblee, the woman who accused Dominie of threatening sexual assault and in the previous nine months complained that he twice lifted her skirt, reached down her blouse to grope her breast and exposed himself by her desk.

"Not one person protected me," said Tromblee, who took out a restraining order against Dominie and has now filed a federal harassment complaint. "I want people to know — you can stand up for yourself."

Though leaders such as Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo insist New York has a tough law on sexual harassment, with more changes proposed this legislative session, the allegations that roiled this office of less than two dozen in Glens Falls underscore a familiar criticism: Aggressive policies aren't of much use if managers don't take action. Harassment is not a new problem in New York state government, nor is it for this particular agency, the Office for People with

Developmental Disabilities. The agency's No. 2 official, Jay Kiyonaga, was fired last year after an investigation revealed "reprehensible" and "sexually inappropriate" acts by him that went back years.

Dominie, 44, acknowledged in an interview with the AP that he engaged in "locker room" behavior that included calling female co-workers "whores," providing marijuana to supervisors and viewing pornography in the office.

He contended that he was only punished after he threatened to report the improper behavior of supervisors, and that his conduct and language were long tolerated as part of the office "culture."

"I was never offended by it," he said. "I'm an old Marine. It was a joke. We were just horseplaying."

Dominie, a 21-year veteran of the state agency who made \$41,000 a year before his suspension, says the allegations of harassment prompted his wife to divorce him, and he expects to be fired later this year. To make ends meet, he's been working as a youth sports referee.

Two supervisors, one of whom has since retired, declined to comment to the AP. But the agency issued a statement defending its handling of the situation.

"Upon learning of the allegations, OPWDD immediately reported the incident to law enforcement and the accused employee was placed on administrative leave," it said. The statement added that unnamed employees involved in the matter were "appropriately disciplined"

and counseled, though it declined to offer details.

The women interviewed by the AP tell a much different story.

They said the two supervisors witnessed the behavior and didn't properly handle multiple complaints, some of which date to at least 2015. Instead of reporting them for further investigation, the women said, the supervisors would repeatedly call Dominie in for meetings with his accusers and ask him to "do better."

The women said he would reform for a few days, only to go back to his old ways. One woman recalled how Dominie not only used explicit language but also assigned letter grades — A, B, C, D or F — to female co-workers based on their outfits and appearance on any given day. The woman said he showed a particular interest in feet, forcing her to swear off open-toed shoes. "It got to a point where I stopped caring what I look like. I stopped doing my makeup, doing my hair. I gained a lot of weight," one of the women recalled. "I would wake up every day thinking 'what can I do to stop him from bothering me today?'"

AP generally does not identify those who say they were sexually assaulted or harassed. Of the three women AP interviewed about Dominie, it is identifying only Tromblee, a 53-year-old registered nurse, because she said she wanted to tell her story publicly.

The two other women gave accounts that were consistent with the formal complaints Tromblee lodged with the state and with the federal Equal Employment



This Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019 photo shows Mary Tromblee in the office of the Solomon Law Firm in Albany, N.Y.

Associated Press

Opportunity Commission. Tromblee and another woman who spoke about Dominie still work in the office; a third has retired.

Tromblee recounted how one supervisor, a woman named Alexis Barlow, asked her whether she had provoked the harassment by flirting with Dominie. Tromblee said in her EEOC complaint that another supervisor, a man named Liam Stander, sometimes exchanged pornography with Dominie over their smartphones and simulated sexual intercourse with him through their clothes as employees watched.

Stander has since retired. He and Barlow declined to comment for this story.

In response to the story, a group of former legislative staffers who say they were harassed by lawmakers called for additional legislative hearings on harassment. The group, Harass-

ment Free Albany, was a driving factor in the Legislature's decision to hold a hearing on harassment last month — the first hearing dedicated to the topic in three decades.

"Why were devoted public servants like Mary left to defend themselves- not just against their harasser but their supervisors who are enabling victim-blamers?" the group tweeted. "We deserve better. We expect more."

Caitlin Girouard, a spokeswoman for Cuomo, called the allegations raised by the women "absolutely despicable and 100 percent unacceptable" and said the governor has worked to improve laws prohibiting harassment in both the public and private sectors. "We fully expect the disciplinary processes to result in appropriate penalties against anyone who has violated the law,"

To our readers and clients: In lieu of Carnival 65 celebrations, Aruba Today will not be published on Monday, March 4th, 2019. We will resume normal operations on Tuesday, March 5th, 2019. As always we appreciate your support and enjoy Aruba's No.1 tourist attraction after us, Carnival 65!

It's Bernie 2.0: More professional, more personal this time

By **STEVE PEOPLES** and **JUANA SUMMERS**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A young civil rights activist named Bernard Sanders was arrested and dragged off to jail for protesting school segregation on the South Side of Chicago in the summer of 1963.

Most voters didn't learn about that episode until photos surfaced in late February 2016, almost 10 months into the Vermont senator's first presidential campaign. Sanders had been struggling to win over African-American voters, but his topsy-turvy campaign team didn't know such powerful evidence of his civil rights bona fides existed until five days before South Carolina's primary.

Sanders lost the Southern contest, which is heavily influenced by the black vote, by almost 50 points. As he launches his second presidential campaign this weekend, Sanders and his team are determined not to repeat the same mistake. The 77-year-old self-described democratic



In this Nov. 27, 2018, file photo, Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., speaks about his new book, 'Where We Go From Here: Two Years in the Resistance', at a George Washington University/Politics and Prose event in Washington.

socialist will hold high-profile rallies in Brooklyn and Chicago, where he'll open up about his working-class roots and early activism — including the arrest — as he tries to prove he's learned from his 2016 stumbles.

"What is different of course

this time is we're built to win and planning to win from the very beginning," said Faiz Shakir, Sanders' campaign manager, who last week became the first Muslim hired to lead a major U.S. presidential effort.

Welcome to Bernie 2.0, a

more professional campaign based in Washington with a team that is embracing a more personal message, a more diverse staff and a much more organized nationwide operation. It's all backed by the strongest fundraising operation in the 2020 Democratic field.

For this candidate, more than others, the new approach has risks.

Turning to a more typical presidential campaign, including an appealing personal story, could help in some areas. But it also could threaten to alienate voters who have been drawn to Sanders' aggressive policies and no-frills speeches. And while he won over millions of Democrats three years ago as the unpolished anti-establishment alternative to Hillary Clinton, he faces a much more complicated and crowded path to the nomination in 2020.

But as the only repeat candidate, Sanders joins the 2020 Democratic field not an outlier, but a front-runner. The decision to shift his headquarters from Vermont to Washington, Shakir said, "is the sign of a confident candidate that's just like, 'Hey, we're going to base this where it's functionally attractive for me to be based. I'm not trying to

play politics with this.'" Shakir and a team that features women and minorities in at least five senior roles so far replaces an overwhelmingly white, male team previously led by former campaign manager Jeff Weaver, who will stay on as a senior adviser.

Sanders parted ways with three longtime media consultants who cited "creative differences" in deciding to leave the campaign.

To address past concerns about sexual harassment and pay inequity, the new campaign will feature mandatory training highlighting an independent phone line to report issues and a fixed pay scale for virtually every position. By the end of the next week, the campaign expects to have roughly 35 people on the payroll, Shakir said. By comparison, Sanders' campaign had only around two dozen people on the payroll in June 2015.

Weaver said Sanders' proven ability to raise money allows his second presidential campaign to be much more organized and deliberate with its resources.

Beyond Washington, they're actively assembling paid teams in the first states on the primary calendar: Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada — in addition to California, where the team plans to compete aggressively against home state Sen. Kamala Harris.

"We don't talk about the first four states, we talk about the first five," Weaver said, noting that Sanders is in the process of scheduling a California rally. Sanders can afford to be aggressive.

He has dwarfed his early competition in fundraising so far, raking in roughly \$10 million in his first week as an announced candidate.

That gives him the time and resources to try new approaches, including talking about himself more often. In 2016, Sanders was laser-focused on liberal policies to address income inequality in his first run, barely mentioning his own personal story. □

Space Force would be by far the smallest military service

By ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration's proposed Space Force, which faces an uncertain fate in Congress, would be the smallest military service — by far.

Details of the Pentagon's proposal released Friday show the new service would have about 15,000 personnel, including an unspecified number of civilians, but would begin in 2020 as only a headquarters of about 200. The proposal was submitted Wednesday to Congress, which must authorize the new service.

Space Force would be the first new military service since an independent Air Force was established in 1947 as part of a broad reorganization of the government's military and intelligence agencies.

Space Force would reside within the Department of the Air Force, similar to how the Marine Corps exists within the Department of the Navy. It would have its own chief of staff, a four-star general who would answer to the secretary of the Air Force, currently Heather Wilson.

Currently the smallest branch of the armed forces is the Coast Guard, which has about 40,000 active-duty members in uniform and is part of the Department of Homeland Security. The second-smallest service, the Marine Corps, has 186,000. The biggest military service is the Army, with 487,500 active-duty members.

President Donald Trump has pushed the Pentagon to create a Space Force that is "separate but equal to" the other military services. His first defense secretary, Jim Mattis, initially was cool to the idea, arguing against adding expensive new layers of bureaucracy. Critics have questioned the need to create a Space Force as a separate military service, noting that there are relatively small numbers of people required to carry out space-related missions. The Pentagon argues that a separate ser-



President Donald Trump hands a pen to Air Force Gen. Paul Selva after signing "Space Policy Directive 4" in the Oval Office of the White House, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

vice will give space issues a stronger voice within the military and create a special space culture and expertise.

The plan submitted to Congress calls for phasing in a Space Force over five years beginning with the 2020 budget year. This would add an estimated \$2 billion in costs beyond what is spent on existing military space activities. Many details of the new service have yet to be worked out, including whether it would have its own boot camp for recruits and whether it would have its own uniform design.

Not all space-related government activities would fall under the Space Force. It would not include the Pentagon's Missile Defense Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the National Reconnaissance Office, which builds and maintains intelligence satellites in space.

Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan issued a written statement Friday calling the proposal "an historic moment for our nation," ensuring the U.S.

can "compete, deter and, if needed, win in a complex domain." He credited Trump with a "bold vision for space."

While many in Congress support organizational

changes to improve U.S. space defense capabilities, some key members question the wisdom of creating a separate military service. Sen. James Inhofe, the Oklahoma Re-

publican and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has expressed doubts, although on Friday he issued a statement welcoming the Pentagon's proposal. □

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Liberal Hawaii decides again not to legalize marijuana

By **AUDREY McAVOY**
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — On the political spectrum, Hawaii is among the bluest of states. Democrats control all the levers of power at the state and federal levels, and voters back Democratic presidential candidates over Republicans by some of the widest margins in the U.S.

The state has committed to the Paris climate agreement that President Donald Trump rejected and was the first state to require people to be 21 to buy cigarettes. The tourist haven even banned certain types of sunscreen because they can harm coral reefs.

But when it comes to legalizing recreational marijuana for adult use, the islands are out of step with liberal stalwarts such as California and Vermont that have already done so, and other left-leaning states such as New York and New Jersey that are racing toward joining them. On Friday, a legalization bill that made it farther in the legislative process than previous efforts died when lawmakers failed to consider it in time



This June 6, 2017 file photo shows Aloha Green, a medical marijuana dispensary, in Honolulu. Associated Press

for a deadline. Senate Majority Leader J. Kalani English has introduced marijuana legalization bills for the past 15 years — but Hawaii has a track record of moving slowly on social issues. For example, other states moved far more quickly to sanction gay marriage and medically assisted suicide.

Half the Democrats in the state Senate co-sponsored English's measure, helping spur speculation this would be the year legalization becomes reality. But the effort fizzled as other leaders worried about contradicting federal law, which continues to classify marijuana as an illegal drug, and jeopardizing Ha-

waii's existing medical marijuana program. To move forward, the bill had to pass the Senate Health Committee and Senate Ways and Means Committee by a Friday deadline so it could be considered by the full Senate. But the Health Committee did not schedule a meet-

ing on Friday to consider any bills, effectively killing the marijuana legalization measure.

Rep. Della Au Belatti, the House majority leader, said before the bill died that she believes Hawaii will legalize adult use marijuana at some point. But she said lawmakers will vet the issue carefully.

"I also think that we have enough folks who are sitting around the table who are saying 'Let's do it right. Let's not just rush into things and let's do it right,'" she said.

Belatti said lawmakers must closely study the experiences of states that have legalized marijuana. She also wants to have abuse prevention, treatment and education programs set up before legalization. Hawaii also will have to make sure legalized marijuana doesn't lead to more impaired driving, she said.

For now, Belatti said she's just inclined toward decriminalizing marijuana, or reducing fines and criminal penalties for possession. Twelve states and the District of Columbia have recreational marijuana laws. □



In this Wednesday, May 17, 2017 file photo, Betty Shelby leaves the courtroom with her husband, Dave Shelby, right, after the jury in her case began deliberations in Tulsa, Okla.

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — There is insufficient evidence to pursue federal civil rights charges against a white former Tulsa police officer who shot and killed an unarmed black man, the Department of Justice said Friday. U.S. Attorney Trent Shores announced the closure of the investigation into

whether Betty Shelby willfully used unreasonable force against Terence Crutcher when she shot and killed him in September 2016. "The Department of Justice devoted significant resources to this investigation to ensure that a thorough review was undertaken. Attorneys from both the Civil Rights Division and the U.S.

DOJ: No civil rights charge in deadly Tulsa police shooting

Attorney's Office worked closely with the FBI to examine the evidence and review applicable law," Shores said in a statement. A Tulsa County jury acquitted Shelby in May 2017 in the shooting death of Crutcher, who was holding his hands above his head when he was shot. Shelby testified she fired her weapon out of fear because Crutcher didn't obey her commands and appeared to reach inside his SUV for what she thought was a gun. Crutcher was unarmed. "We're disappointed, but unfortunately we're not surprised," said Demario Solomon-Simmons, an attorney for Crutcher's family. "The number one rea-

son is that the system is set up to protect officers like Betty Shelby. The standard (of proof) is so high, it's the highest standard in the legal system, to prove that someone willfully and intentionally violated someone else's civil rights." Shelby resigned from the Tulsa Police Department following her acquittal. A federal lawsuit filed by Crutcher's family against the City of Tulsa and Shelby still is pending in federal court. Shores said a team that included some of the department's most experienced prosecutors and FBI agents examined all of the evidence in the case, including enhanced video footage of the shooting.

The investigation aimed to determine whether Shelby willfully violated federal law, which Shores said required prosecutors to determine that Shelby acted with the "deliberate and specific intent" to do something illegal. "Any allegation of law enforcement misconduct and willful deprivation of civil rights is taken seriously," Shores said. "However, the evidence in this case did not support pursuing criminal prosecution." Crutcher's killing was among a spate of officer-involved shootings in recent years that helped galvanize the Black Lives Matter movement and prompted calls for more police accountability. □

Evacuations lifted for flooded California wine country towns

By JOSH EDELSON and
OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

GUERNEVILLE, Calif. (AP) — Jason Flint prepared for flooding in Northern California by putting his deli's valuable equipment on pallets and milk crates stacked several feet above the ground.

It wasn't enough, as he found out Friday when he returned to Guerneville after two days of flooding in Sonoma County's famed wine country. Mud-covered refrigerators, display cases and food crates were strewn about by 6-foot-high (2 meters) murky water.

"My entire deli is wiped out," Flint said. "It's crazy. It's too much to get my head around this."

Evacuation orders were lifted and all roads into Guerneville and neighboring Monte Rio were opened Friday, almost three days after being cut off by the rain-swollen Russian River.

Days of heavy rain had left the towns reachable only by boat Wednesday. About 2,600 homes, businesses and other structures in the popular tourist destination were flooded by water up to 8 feet (2.4 meters) deep and about 3,700 people were ordered to evacuate.

No one was injured or killed and the river receded below the 32-foot flood level. However, more than 200 miles (320 kilometers) north, a man drowned while trying to reach his Humboldt

County home by walking through about 5 feet (1.5 meters) of water.

Benito Nunez-Rodriguez, 35, of Ferndale was trying to walk from his job at a dairy farm to his home Wednesday evening when he was carried away by the fast-moving current, said Samantha Karges, a spokeswoman with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office.

Co-workers had tried to encourage Nunez-Rodriguez to spend the night with them rather than cross the flood waters, but he wanted to get home, Joseph Alexandre, manager of Alexandre Family Farm, said Friday.

"We're all pretty shaken up about what happened and thinking what could we have done differently," Alexandre said.

Along the main road in Guerneville, business owners inspected the damage caused by floodwaters that rose about 46 feet (14 meters) Wednesday night, the river's highest level in 24 years.

Chris Reid, a manager of True Value Hardware, said they were able to salvage cash registers, computers, chain saws and other expensive equipment by putting them on the second floor of the two-story building.

But on the ground level, all the shelves were covered in chest-high mud. He and employees washed down rubber boots, brooms, shovels, buckets and other



Farmhand Deli co-owner Jason Flint surveys the damage inside his restaurant along River Road as flood waters from the Russian River continue to recede in Guerneville, Calif., on Friday, March 1, 2019.

Associated Press

salvaged cleaning supplies and brought them to the sidewalk to sell at a discounted rate.

Locals are accustomed to the river flooding in rainy weather, but not like this, he said.

"The store has gone through all the floods but this is a lot more than we expected," Reid said. Flint said he knew flooding was inevitable when he opened his deli but he couldn't afford to pay \$2,000 per month for flood insurance.

"I've been here 17 years and I've never seen the river that high. I pray the worst of it is over," he said, adding that he plans to rebuild his business.

Sonoma County spokes-

man Hannah Euser said even though evacuation orders were lifted for Guerneville and Monte Rio, residents were encouraged to wait to enter their homes until they are inspected. Damage assessment crews planned to mark green, yellow and red tags to indicate whether they are safe for re-entry.

"We have a lot of buildings that have taken in water and we will be inspecting them to determine if they are safe," she said.

Euser said crews were still clearing trees, tires and even propane tanks from the streets while workers with Pacific Gas and Electric checked power lines. Officials warned people to

stay away from the area unless they have necessary business.

Light rain was forecast for Friday night in the area and Euser said emergency personnel would remain working through the weekend. She said there were continuing concerns for mudslides in areas scarred by wildfires two years ago.

"We are not completely out of the woods here," said Assemblyman Jim Wood, who represents the area in the state Legislature.

Another wet system carrying the aptly named "atmospheric river" is in the forecast next week, though forecasters say it's expected to affect central California. □



In this Jan. 30, 2019, file photo, a sign posted at The Vancouver Clinic in Vancouver, Wash., warns patients and visitors of a measles outbreak.

Associated Press

Measles outbreak in Pacific Northwest about half of U.S. cases

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) —

The focus on measles in the Pacific Northwest intensified Friday as public health officials in Oregon announced a new case of the highly contagious disease unrelated to an ongoing outbreak in Washington state that's sickened 68 people so far.

An unvaccinated Illinois resident who spent time overseas visited Portland

International Airport and various locations in Salem, Oregon last week while contagious with measles, the Oregon Health Authority said. Potential exposure locations include a Red Robin restaurant and a trampoline fun park in Salem, officials said.

The case is unrelated to an ongoing measles outbreak in southwest Washington state that's sickened dozens. Public health officials

in Clark County, Washington, said three new cases were identified Friday and two more are suspected.

That brings the number of cases in the Portland, Oregon bedroom community of Vancouver, Washington, to 68 — more than 40 percent of the number reported nationwide since Jan. 1, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in updated statistics released Friday. □

Hungary's Orban faces revolt in EU parliamentary grouping

By **RAF CASERT**

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban was facing a groundswell of revolt Friday from allied center-right parties that want to kick him out of their European Parliament group less than three months ahead of the May elections.

Several Christian Democrat parties already have voiced their opposition to the continued membership of the EPP umbrella group of Orban's Fidesz party. In recent years, Orban has been strongly identified with anti-migrant rhetoric. Luxembourg Christian Democrat leader Frank Engel said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press he wants the EPP to take a decision ahead of the March 21-22 European Union summit in Brussels "because I have no intention of engaging in an election campaign with Fidesz still on board."

Engel joined two Belgian parties in writing in a letter to the grouping's presidency asking for Fidesz



In this May 22, 2015 file photo, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, right, and European Council President Donald Tusk, left, greet Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban during a summit in Riga, Latvia.

Associated Press

to be excluded because the Hungarian leader "has been acting in striking contradiction" with the EPP's Christian Democrat values. The EPP, they said, was too important "to be undermined within our own ranks by what we are so determined to fight: nationalism-based populism and open hostility against European

integration." Dutch and Portuguese parties have echoed that complaint, which has swelled over recent months — that Orban is too far to the political right of traditional Christian Democrat values.

Orban's stance on migrants from conflict zones has alarmed many within the

group. He has accused European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, who is part of the EPP, of being too lax on immigration. Orban has plastered Budapest with posters showing Juncker as a gloating force of evil.

Juncker's Commission issued a rebuttal on Thursday against Orban's alle-

gations — hardly the unity the grouping wants to display three months ahead of elections.

Dutch Christian Democrat leader Rutger Ploum said "recent events have shown that informal talks with Fidesz no longer have the desired effect."

And Portugal's CDS/PP party said in a letter to the EPP presidency that the differences with Fidesz "are too substantial" for Orban's party to remain inside the group.

Orban hopes anti-migration forces will become a majority in all EU institutions, including the European Parliament and EU Commission, the bloc's executive body.

Lajos Kosa, a Fidesz founder and an Orban government commissioner, was confident the party would not be expelled from the EPP for what he called "clarifying the truth." Expulsion "was also raised earlier by pro-immigration EPP politicians, but it has not happened so far and we don't expect it now, either," Kosa told broadcaster ATV. □

With four weeks to go, there's calm within the Brexit storm



The flag of the European Union and the British flag wave during a demonstration outside the Palace of Westminster, in London, on Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

Associated Press

By **RAF CASERT**

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Britain and the European Union are set to formally divorce before the month is out — but the mood in London and Brussels in Friday was less frenzied than it has been at times of late.

Though the divorce pro-

ceedings, started by Britain's 2016 vote to leave the EU, remain fraught with difficulties, there's an element of relief that a so-called "no-deal" disaster is lower down the agenda — for now.

Earlier this week, British Prime Minister Theresa said she would be putting the

option of an extension to Brexit from the scheduled March 29 date to lawmakers — if they fail to back any revised withdrawal agreement in a vote by March 12.

There's also been talk that Brexit may not actually happen at all if lawmakers support another referendum after the main opposition Labour Party said it would back a second vote on Britain's decision to leave the EU.

Until May conceded the possibility of an extension — the EU Council President Donald Tusk said it would be a "rational solution" — there were growing fears about a "no-deal" Brexit and what its impact would be on both sides of the English Channel.

The warnings were stark. New tariffs and other restrictions to trade were set to hobble trucks in Chan-

nel ports. Holidaymakers faced delays while farmers would struggle to get rid of their products as they wilt in warehouses.

All-in-all the fate of countless companies and whole economies hung in the balance.

It's fair to say that the prospect of a "no-deal" Brexit did not look appetizing though some of the keenest Brexit supporters in the U.K. Parliament insist that the warnings are just another element of "Project Fear" to dissuade Britain from leaving the EU.

For now, everyone is waiting to see what May — and her attorney general, Geoffrey Cox — comes back with from her discussions with the EU. Until that becomes clear, Brexit appears to be in some sort of holding pattern.

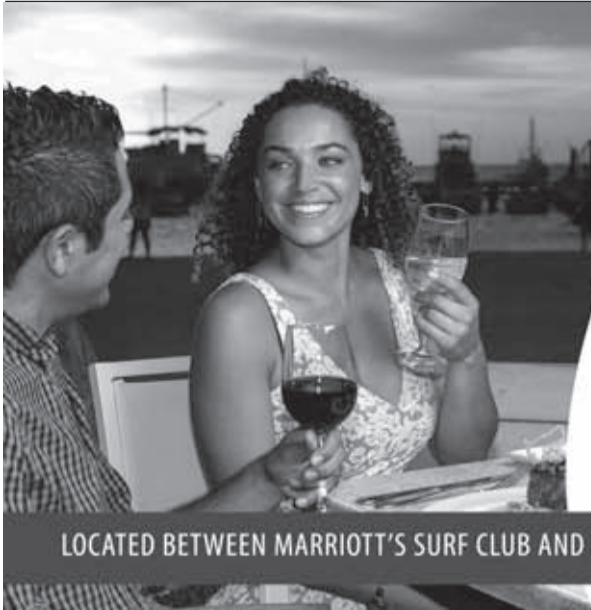
Negotiations are supposed to resume in Brussels next

week, between EU negotiator Michel Barnier and the latest set of U.K. negotiators.

May's original deal was overwhelmingly defeated in a vote in January with many lawmakers in her own party opposed to a provision to guarantee there are no customs posts or other barriers along the Irish border. The mechanism, known as the backstop, is a safeguard that would keep the U.K. in a customs union with the EU to remove the need for checks until a permanent new trading relationship is in place.

It's not going to be easy for May.

Emotions remain raw. That was evident Friday when Britain's former Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab told the BBC about "the dishonorable way that (the EU) tried to bully us and shove us around." □



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Algerians march en masse against 5th term for sick president

By AOMAR OUALI
Associated Press

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Masses of Algerians surged through the capital and rallied in other cities Friday against ailing President Abdelaziz Bouteflika's bid for a fifth term, in an exceptional popular challenge to the country's secretive leadership.

Protesters surged past a barricade and defied repeated volleys of tear gas fired by police in the march in Algiers. Most marchers were peaceful but a small group throwing stones clashed at the end of the event with police, causing some injuries.

Such anti-government protests are unusual in Algeria, where questions are growing about Bouteflika's fitness for office after a 2013 stroke that has left him



Protesters demonstrate in the streets of Algiers, Algeria, to denounce President Abdelaziz Bouteflika's bid for a fifth term, Friday, March 1, 2019.

Associated Press

largely hidden from public. Police helicopters circled overhead as crowds gathered in streets and parks of Algiers after midday Muslim prayer services to join the march. Organizers of the social media-driven movement hope the protest will send a loud signal of public

discontent to Algeria's secretive leadership before the April 18 presidential election.

"For a free and democratic Algeria!" shouted some demonstrators, or "No fifth term!"

The crowd included families with small children and

women in headscarves or jeans. Riot police lined key avenues, determined to keep marchers from nearing government buildings. Bursts of tear gas fire punctuated the afternoon, starting soon after crowds started gathering. More and more demonstrators joined in as the group marched along a route parallel to the city's Mediterranean shore.

Police stopped the crowd near the central post office, and the protesters' chants briefly fell silent as they joined together to sing the Algerian national anthem.

Then the crowd overwhelmed a police barricade, pushing on toward Martyrs' Square in the historic Casbah neighborhood.

Associated Press reporters saw tens of thousands at

the heart of the Algiers protest, while Algerian media and organizers reported several hundred thousand at protests nationwide, calling it the biggest such action in more than a decade.

As the Algiers protest wound down, groups of young demonstrators cleared away bottles and other garbage left along the protest route, heeding a call by organizers to stay peaceful and respectful.

It's the latest of several protests in recent days against Bouteflika's candidacy for the April 18 election. The protests have been largely organized by a movement called Mouwatana, or citizenship, that gathers various opposition parties and activists and wants Bouteflika to renounce his decision to seek a new term. □

Chemical weapons watchdog says chlorine was used in Douma

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The global chemical weapons watchdog said Friday it found "reasonable grounds" that chlorine was used as a weapon in an attack on the Syrian town of Douma last year.

The finding was contained in a detailed report by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons' fact finding mission that investigated the attack on April 7, 2018. Medical workers said at the time that the attack killed more than 40 people.

In a statement, the OPCW said the mission visited

Douma, analyzed samples taken from the scene and from people affected, interviewed witnesses and studied toxicological and ballistics analyses.

The data, it said, provided "reasonable grounds that the use of a toxic chemical as a weapon" took place.

"This toxic chemical contained reactive chlorine. The toxic chemical was likely molecular chlorine."

The Fact Finding Mission's mandate does not include laying blame for the attack. The United States, Britain and France blamed Syrian government forces for the attack and launched punitive airstrikes. Syria denied

responsibility.

Douma was the final target of the government's sweeping campaign to seize back control of the eastern Ghouta suburbs of Damascus from rebels after seven years of revolt. Militants gave up the town days after the alleged attack.

The OPCW said the report has been sent to the United Nations Security Council.

Russia, a staunch ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad, also rejected claims that Syria was responsible for the attack and even brought what it called witnesses to The Hague to describe their experiences. □



In this Monday, April 16, 2018 file photo, people stand in front of damaged buildings, in the town of Douma, the site of a suspected chemical weapons attack, near Damascus, Syria.

Associated Press

Saudi Arabia revokes citizenship of Hamza bin Laden

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) —

Saudi Arabia announced Friday it had revoked the citizenship of Hamza bin Laden, the son of the late al-Qaida leader who has become an increasingly prominent figure in the terror network.

There was no immediate explanation why the royal decree stripping his citizenship, signed in November, was only becoming public now. However, the announcement comes after the U.S. government on Thursday offered a \$1 million reward for information leading to his capture as part of its "Rewards for Justice" program.

The kingdom similarly stripped Osama bin Laden's citizenship in 1994 while living in exile in Sudan when Hamza bin Laden was just a child. Where he is now remains in question.

"This is an example of history rhyming," said Thomas Joscelyn, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Foundation for Defense of Democracies who studies al-Qaida and the Islamic



This wanted poster released by the U.S. Department of State Rewards for Justice program shows Hamza bin Laden.

Associated Press

State group. "He's basically born right after al-Qaida is founded, so his life is totally consumed in the establishment, the formation of al-

Qaida and the launching of its war against the West and America."

Saudi Arabia revoked Hamza bin Laden's citizenship in

November, according to a circular by the Interior Ministry quietly published Friday by the country's official gazette. State-run media in the kingdom did not report on the decision.

Bin Laden is believed to have been born in 1989, the year of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, where his father became known among the mujahedeen fighters. His father returned to Saudi Arabia and later fled to Sudan after criticizing the kingdom for allowing U.S. troops to deploy in the country during the 1991 Gulf War. He later fled Sudan for Afghanistan in 1996, where he declared war against the U.S.

As leader of al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden oversaw a series of attacks, including the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, as well as the bombing of the USS Cole off Yemen. He and others plotted and executed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on New York and the Pentagon, which led to the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. U.S. Navy SEALs ultimately killed bin Laden in a raid

on a house in Abbottabad, Pakistan, in 2011.

For Hamza bin Laden, now believed to be around 30, his father initially worried for his safety and thought to send him away for study, but his son instead "wants to get into the fight," Joscelyn said. He's then sent away for explosives training in Pakistan.

Video released by the CIA in 2017 that was seized during the Abbottabad raid shows Hamza bin Laden with a trimmed mustache but no beard, at his wedding. Previous images have only shown him as a child. The State Department said in its announcement Thursday about the \$1 million bounty on him that it believes he married the daughter of Mohamed Atta, the lead hijacker in the Sept. 11 attacks.

Hamza bin Laden began appearing in militant videos and recordings in 2015 as an al-Qaida spokesman. "If you think that your sinful crime that you committed in Abbottabad has passed without punishment, then you thought wrong," he said in his first audio recording. □

More people emerge from last IS-held territory in Syria



In this Aug. 4, 2016, file, photo, people gather to take basic food stuffs and other aid from community leaders charged with distributing equitably the supplies to the 64,000-person refugee camp called Rukban on the Jordan-Syria border.

Associated Press

By SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

OUTSIDE BAGHOUZ, Syria (AP) —

More civilians evacuated from the last territory held by the Islamic State group in eastern Syria Friday, amid a warning by

the United Nations about the plight of thousands who have fled the area in recent weeks.

In a statement, the U.N. cited reports that more than 84 people, two thirds of them young children un-

der five years of age, have died since December on their way to al-Hol camp in northeastern Syria after fleeing the extremist group in Syria's Deir el-Zour province.

In the last week alone, it said, some 13,000 people have arrived at al-Hol camp.

"Many of the arrivals are exhausted, hungry and sick," said Jens Laerke, spokesman of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), at a news briefing in Geneva.

The evacuation of men, women and children comes amid an ongoing standoff between the militants and the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces besieging them in a small sliver of land along the Euphrates River.

From a self-proclaimed ca-

liphate that once stretched over large areas of Syria and Iraq, the Islamic State group has been reduced to a tiny speck of land in the village of Baghouz, where a few hundred IS militants are holed up with family members and other civilians who are among the group's most determined supporters, many of whom traveled to Syria from all over the world.

U.S. President Donald Trump falsely claimed on Thursday that IS has lost 100 percent of the territory it once controlled in Syria. On the ground, the group continues to cling to its last piece of territory, with civilians, mostly women and children, trickling out on almost daily basis.

In Moscow, the Russian military said the Syrian government was sending convoys to evacuate a refugee

camp in southern Syria where tens of thousands suffer from lack of food and medical supplies.

Col. Gen. Mikhail Mizintsev said the Syrian convoys were heading on Friday to the Rukban camp and urged the U.S. military in the area to secure their safe passage. Russia has accused the U.S. of failing to provide humane conditions in the camp, which is home to about 40,000 people.

Mizintsev said the U.S. military would bear "full responsibility for the safe passage" of convoys through its zone of control.

The Russian military said it will work together with the Syrian army to escort the convoys as they head to temporary accommodation centers for refugees established in several Syrian provinces. □



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Undeterred by summit collapse, Moon vows closer North ties

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Friday his government plans to discuss with the United States the possibility of restarting joint inter-Korean economic projects to induce nuclear disarmament from North Korea.

Moon's comments during a nationally televised speech came a day after a high-stakes nuclear summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un collapsed over what the Americans saw as excessive North Korean demands for sanctions relief in exchange for limited disarmament steps.

North Korea insisted it had asked only for partial sanctions relief in exchange for shutting down its main nuclear complex. Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho also said Washington had wasted an opportunity that "may not come again" and the North's position won't change even if the United States offers to resume talks. The breakdown is a setback for Moon, whose desire for closer relations between the Koreas hinges on a nuclear breakthrough between the United States and North Korea. While Moon has prioritized stabilizing relations with the North amid the larger nuclear negotiations, his dovish approach has caused disagreements with Washington, which sees economic pressure as its main leverage with Pyongyang. "I vow to help usher in an era of a peace-driven economy on the Korean Peninsula," said Moon, who preaches that South Korea should be in the "driver's seat" in international efforts to deal with the North.

However, if the nuclear negotiations derail, Moon



South Korean President Moon Jae-in delivers a speech during a ceremony to mark the 100th anniversary of the March First Independence Movement Day, the anniversary of the 1919 uprising against Japanese colonial rule, in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, March 1, 2019.

Associated Press

could potentially face a serious dilemma over whether to continue to engage with the North or join another U.S.-led pressure campaign against it.

In a speech in Seoul commemorating the anniversary of a 1919 Korean uprising against Japanese colonial rule, Moon made a nationalistic call for inter-Korean cooperation, which he says would drive progress in negotiations between the United States and North Korea.

Moon said he would "consult" with the United States on resuming operations at an inter-Korean factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong and restarting South Korean tours to the North's scenic Diamond Mountain resort. It's impossible for Seoul to resume the projects under the current U.S.-led sanctions against the North. Moon also proposed the creation of a joint economic committee between the Koreas aimed at developing the North's

crippled economy, which he said would be possible with progress in the North's denuclearization.

"We will closely communicate and cooperate with the United States and North Korea so as to help their talks reach a complete settlement by any means possible," he said. "Progress in inter-Korean relations will lead to the normalization of North Korea's relations with the United States and Japan, expanding into a new order of peace and security in Northeast Asia."

While Moon had been expected to make ambitious new proposals for engagement with the North while marking the centennial of an admired historical event, his speech ended without major announcements or fresh plans on inter-Korean economic activities. Moon spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom did not give a definite answer when asked whether the breakdown of the Hanoi summit forced Moon to modify his proposals.

Moon said the United States

and North Korea still made "meaningful progress" in Hanoi as conversations between Trump and Kim Jong Un would have "enhanced mutual understanding and built more trust."

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in Manila, Philippines, on Friday that the North Koreans demanded "full" sanctions relief in talks in Hanoi, contradicting Ri, who said the North asked only for partial relief.

"These are global demands for the denuclearization of North Korea and we are anxious to get back to the table so we can continue the conversation that will ultimately lead to peace and stability and a better life for the North Korean people and a lower threat, a denuclearized North Korea," Pompeo told reporters.

There had been hopes in Seoul that Trump and Kim would reach a deal that meaningfully reduces North Korea's nuclear weapons capability and softens sanctions against

Pyongyang, which would give Moon more room to push his ambitious ideas on inter-Korean engagement. Aside of restarting the Kaesong factory park and South Korean tours to Diamond Mountain, the Koreas also aspire to reconnect their railways and roads.

Moon has desperately tried to maintain an impression that things are headed toward the North's denuclearization, trying to keep hard-liners in Washington at bay and a positive atmosphere of dialogue alive. That could become much harder to do if the United States and North Korea struggle to put their negotiations back on track and amid growing doubts on whether Kim would ever voluntarily deal away an arsenal he may see as his strongest guarantee of survival.

While Moon focuses predominantly on North Korea issues, critics say huge problems are being mishandled at home, including a decaying job market, falling birth rates and deep age, gender and political divides. Hwang Kyo-ahn, former South Korean prime minister and leader of the conservative Liberty Korean Party, criticized Moon for overselling a "rosy fantasy" on the North's denuclearization and that people's hopes are now turning into uneasiness.

"South Korea loses the most from the Hanoi summit ending without agreement," said Alison Evans, an analyst from IHS Markit. "Without progress on North Korea, Moon's domestic agenda becomes his only metric of success for voters, who have already criticized his administration for failing to deliver on economic metrics such as unemployment." □

Ortega rep: 'Every effort' being made in Nicaragua talks

By GABRIELA SELSER

Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua

(AP) — A representative of President Daniel Ortega said the government is working in good faith to find common ground with the opposition as talks on defusing Nicaragua's political standoff entered a third day Friday without deals on key sticking points.

The first public comment from Ortega's camp since the negotiations began Wednesday came as a small group of university students held an anti-Ortega demonstration, defying a de facto ban on opposition protests since September after hundreds died in unrest last year.

Sandinista Front lawmaker Wilfredo Navarro, a member of Ortega's delegation, told journalists before discussions began for the day that the talks are advancing and "there is a common will to work and achieve results."



In this Sept. 5, 2018 file photo, Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega and his wife and Vice President Rosario Murillo, lead a rally in Managua, Nicaragua.

Associated Press

"The government is making every effort. ... We are sitting down with all the will in the world to achieve agreements," Navarro said.

However, asked about opposition demands for the presence of international "guarantors" at the talks, he rejected the idea at least

for the near term. "There cannot be guarantors right now," Navarro said. "If we have still not reached agreements, what

is there to guarantee?"

The opposition group Civic Alliance said it hoped to win approval of a so-called roadmap, with the goal of negotiating with "clear rules of the game."

The dialogue at a business institute south of the capital, Managua, is a kind of restart to previous talks that broke down last summer seeking to find a way to put an end to the crisis.

At least 325 people were killed last year, according to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, as protests beginning in April were met by a deadly crackdown by security forces and armed, pro-government civilian groups.

Ortega opponents accused him of increasingly authoritarian rule and demanded he leave office and allow early elections; government officials alleged that protesters were effectively attempting a coup d'etat. □

Brazil's jailed Lula given jet to attend grandson's funeral

By MAURICIO SAVARESE

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) —

Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was offered a jet to leave prison and attend the funeral of his 7-year-old grandson who died of meningitis on Friday.

The Parana state government said in a statement that one of its planes will take da Silva to Sao Paulo, "following a request by the federal police." A judge still needs to give authorization.

Da Silva is jailed in the state capital of Curitiba, 400 kilometers (249 miles) away from Santo Andre, the city on the outskirts of Sao Paulo where Arthur Araujo Lula da Silva died at hospital Rede D'Or Sao Luiz.

Arthur is the child of Sandro Luis Lula da Silva, one of the sons of the former president.

Workers' Party Chairwoman Gleisi Hoffmann said her party will do "everything we can" for the former presi-



In this July 5, 2017 file photo, Brazil's Former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva attends the inauguration ceremony for the new leadership of the Workers' Party, in Brasilia, Brazil.

Associated Press

dent to be at the funeral. Da Silva's spokesman Jose Chrispiniano told The Associated Press he does not know where and when Arthur's funeral will take place. On Friday, Brazilian social

media was filled with messages in support of the former president. But lawmaker Eduardo Bolsonaro, son of Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, said on Twitter that da Silva should not be allowed to attend the

funeral. "Lula is just an inmate and he should be at a common prison. When the relatives of other inmates die will they also be escorted by the federal police for the funeral?" Eduardo Bol-

sonaro said. "It is absurd to even contemplate that. It only lets him pose as a poor thing."

It is uncertain whether a request for da Silva to attend the funeral will be accepted, although most inmates are granted permission in accordance with Brazilian legislation.

But on Jan. 29 the left-leaning leader was not allowed to attend the funeral of his elder brother Genival Inacio da Silva in Sao Bernardo do Campo, also on the outskirts of Sao Paulo.

In that instance, Judge Carolina Lebbos decided to ask Brazil's federal police and the federal prosecutor's office in Curitiba whether Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva should be allowed to travel.

Brazil's federal police argued there were security concerns if the former president left the city of Curitiba to attend ceremonies 400 kilometers (249 miles) away in Sao Paulo. Lebbos agreed. □

LOCAL



Sarah Hickman - Harms refereed three CWHL games in China

By Clyde Harms

ORANJESTAD — Last week I wrote about my granddaughter Sarah Hickman - Harms who was contracted to referee three games of the Canadian Women's Hockey League (CWHL) in Shenzhen, China. Today I would like to share with you some of the most memorable experiences of her trip.

Undoubtedly, the 16 hours non-stop flight from Dallas to Hongkong is an experience that Sarah will never forget. Following her arrival, another memorable adventure awaited her: The crossing of the brand new bridge complex connecting Hongkong with the Chinese mainland. Officially known as the

Hong Kong, Zhuhai, Macau Bridge (HZMB), it is considered an engineering marvel. Its construction took nine years at a cost of 20 billion dollars. China has several longer bridges, but this one is the longest (55km) bridge complex in the world that crosses a sea.

The three games were inaugurated with a beautiful and impressive ceremony. Listening to the singing



of the national hymns of Canada and China, Sarah felt an intense emotion that made her ponder over her life. Was this another one of God's many blessings that she had received, or was this her reward for all the years she had devoted to the sport of ice hockey; as player starting at the age of five,

as a member of the Sacred Heart College varsity team, and as a referee after she stopped playing? Sarah felt a profound gratitude towards her parents who had always supported her.

With a minimum margin of one goal, the Canadian team won all

three games, but the Red Stars of Shenzhen never stopped fighting. The scores 2-1, 4-3, 4-3 reflect the tenacity of the home team. The second game even went into overtime before the Canadians could seal their victory. As the games were so tight, Sarah and the other referees constantly had to move up and down the rink to keep a sharp eye on the action on the ice. Sarah figures she skated as much as any of the players.

On their off-day Sarah and her colleagues had the luxury of a guide/translator that the CWHL had assigned to them and they availed themselves of this opportunity to do some sightseeing, visit some open markets and eat at some truly Chinese restaurants.



After the 16 hours non-stop flight from Hongkong to Dallas and a connecting flight to Bradley Airport at Springfield, CT, Sarah arrived back in Holyoke, MA Monday morning and went directly to the school where she teaches sports. I imagine her students are in for some exciting stories. clyde-harms@yahoo.com □

Quirky Que Pasa Restaurant presents irresistible new menu

ORANJESTAD — The new menu of Que Pasa Restaurant in the Wilhelminasstraat is chock-full of absolutely irresistible options. This chef goes out of the box in a truly spectacularly creative manner. The quirky, relaxed restaurant can compete with the best with this menu, which combines culinary influences from countries near and far. Of course you'll start with a cocktail, such as a spiced pineapple mule, a Jagerita, a Blue Heaven, a



cucumber and basil gimlet, a Mutual Friend or the Disaronno Sour. Cheers!

And then you are presented with the menu. The appetizers listed are onion

soup, tomato soup and bouillabaisse, a fish platter, a tapas platter and the chef's surprise platter. But there is more to choose from: a lovely European salad, crispy frog legs, bacon-wrapped goat cheese, carpaccio, fried brie, ceviche, calamari, flatbread, a Caesar salad, escargots, a Cuban taco and spicy shrimp pil pil.

Of course Que Pasa is hoping to tempt you to try all its delectable main courses. Not in one seating, of course: no, you'll

have to come back many, many times. Just to give you an idea what to expect: you can choose the farmer's schnitzel, the kangaroo tenderloin, the chicken cordon bleu, the skirt steak, the vegetarian truffle pasta, the mixed grill, the Caribbean grouper, the lasagna alla forno, the braised neck of lamb, the tuna pepper steak, the pork shank, the shrimp piña colada, the Peking duck or a tenderloin steak with additional sides such as pasta, rice, plantains, a side salad or mac 'n cheese, veggies, the potato of the day, herb risotto or asparagus. A pitcher (or glass) of Sangria, made with red, white, sparkling wine or rosé will go terrifically well with everything listed above. The Sangria Deluxe should be tried to be believed.

And one should order one or two (!) of the desserts. Just let your mouth say what you desperately want: the omelette Siberienne (baked Alaska), the coconut vanilla cheesecake, the white chocolate Amaretto mousse, spekkoeck, an Indonesian delicacy, chocolate lava cake or a cheese platter.

To top it all off there is coffee, cappuccino, latte macchiato, tea, Spanish, French, Italian or Irish Coffee. Or the Que Pasa Coffee, which is made with Dom Benedictine, Cointreau and whipped cream.

We would like to wish you a wonderful evening at lovely Que Pasa, which opens its doors at 4 pm every day of the week. You will find free parking on the side of the brightly painted, yellow building. Bon appetit! □



Feeling Sick during vacation?

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PALM BEACH — Feeling sick is a miserable thing during vacation. This is the time of the year you should enjoy and relax, so staying in a hotel room bed with a sunstroke, skin allergy, ear infection or intestinal problems can be a bummer. The best thing to do is to recover as soon as possible, and Dr. Lili Beke of the Aruba Walk-in Clinic, together with Palm Beach Service Pharmacy are a one-stop-shopping solution.



A Walk-In Clinic to Walk To

First of all she is calm, kind and understanding. Personal touch is her trade mark and with more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor she knows what's going on. Doctor Beke is located in Palm Beach, at the door steps of the hotel area and her clinic is appropriately named the Aruba Walk-In Clinic. "I'd like to put myself in the shoes of the visitor. Being in a strange place, sometimes far from family or even alone and feeling sick. You can feel lost and disorientated. I can understand that and try to give them comprehension and a welcome feeling while examining them. So they leave with a smile, even if they feel a bit sick." The doctor speaks seven languages: English, Dutch, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Papiamentu, meaning she can attend to almost any tourist from all over the world. "You can come in without an appointment and we have an emergency number that works 24/7, if necessary I will visit the patient where he/she is staying. We attend patients every day!" Her philosophy is as follows: As long as you enjoy what you are doing and like to help people, this profession is very rewarding." It sounds like the perfect place to heal.

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Two quality parties that work together can only be a good thing. After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the Pharmacy, which is part of a Group of 5 pharmacies, points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicine are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get medicines here for the use of six months and many repeated guests or time share owners do so. This saves them a lot of money. It is however mandatory to have a prescription from a local doctor", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications.

Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured! □



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ORANJESTAD – We would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island. Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory.

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Last but not least: check out our website and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today's newspaper we received a great picture from

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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Darline de Cuba of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitor. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

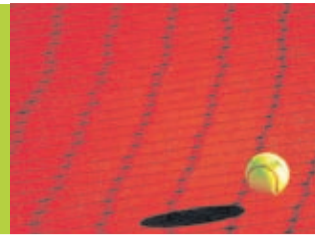
The honorees were **Wilke Hildegard & Wilfred Nussbaum** resident of Berghheim Germany and **Kathy & Michael Kovach** resident of Schwenksville Pennsylvania.

These wonderful people stated that they love the island very much, especially for the year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, its safety, the delicious variety of foods and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. De Cuba together with Francis Ridderstap of the Divi Tamarijn presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □



SPORTS



NFL salary cap jumps \$11 million to \$188.2M

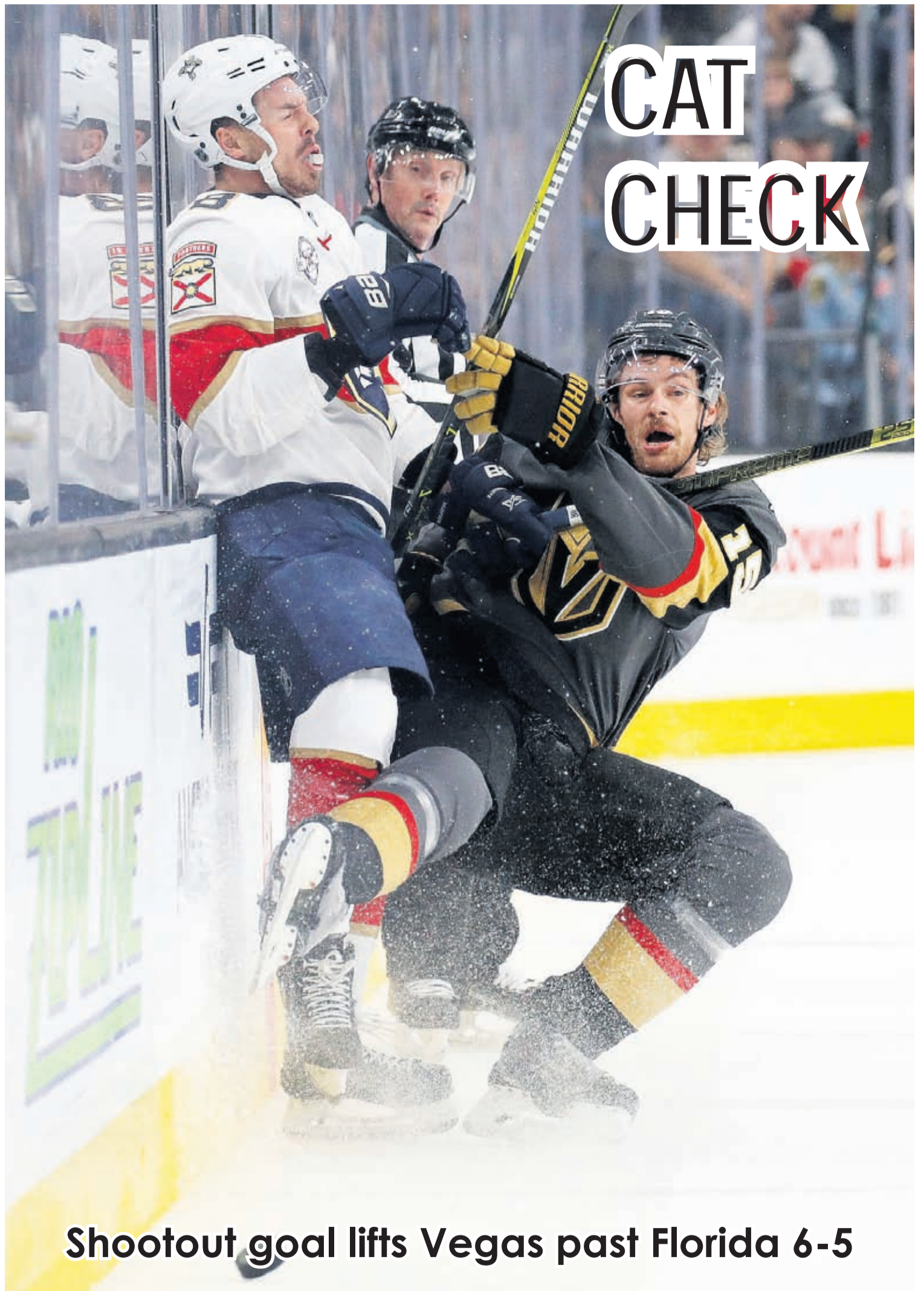
NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL's salary cap will jump \$11 million next season to \$188.2 million.

In the ninth year of the 10-year labor agreement, the cap moves up from \$177.2 million. It has increased in every year of the contract, with the biggest move in 2015 to 2016, when it went up by just under \$12 million. This is the third year out of four in which clubs must reach 89 percent in cash spending, and the NFL Players Association said Friday that four teams are under that threshold: Dallas, Buffalo, Indianapolis and Houston.

League expenditures for benefits are \$40.5 million per team. Add that to the salary cap number and each club's player costs are above \$228 million.

Benefits includes pension payments to former players; the Bell/Rozelle retirement and disability plan for active players; annuities and 401 (k) plans; health care; injury protection and severance; veteran performance-based pay; a separate pool of performance-based pay that's essentially a cash bonus to players who outperform their contracts.

With the NFL's revenues at more than \$14 billion and every team worth at least \$1.6 billion (Buffalo), with a high of about \$5 billion (Dallas), it's hardly a surprise how high the cap has gone. In the first year of the current CBA, reached after a lockout of the players from March-July 2011, the cap was \$120 million. It has increased by at least \$10 million every year since 2014, when it went up to \$133 million from \$123 million. □



Shootout goal lifts Vegas past Florida 6-5

Vegas Golden Knights defenseman Jon Merrill (15) checks Florida Panthers center Jayce Hawryluk (8) into the boards during the first period of an NHL hockey game Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019, in Las Vegas.

Im, Mitchell share 36-hole lead at Honda Classic

By **TIM REYNOLDS**

AP Sports Writer

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla.

(AP) — Sungjae Im was in the first group to tee off on the first hole Friday at The Honda Classic. He'll be in the final group Saturday. Im, the 20-year-old South Korean rookie who around this time last year was winning the first Web.com Tour start of his career, shot a 6-under 64 in the second round at PGA National. He shared the 36-hole lead at 6-under 134 with Keith Mitchell (66).

It could be considered a surprise final pairing: Combined, Im and Mitchell have zero PGA Tour wins.

"It's just nice to kind of feel like you're in contention and playing well," Mitchell said. "You're out there actually trying to make birdies instead of trying to salvage and trying to make a cut ... trying to make a birdie and force it. Today we were just out there trying to hit good shots."

Mitchell had five birdies and bogey Friday; Im had seven birdies and a bogey to match the low round of the week so far. First-round leader Jhonattan Vegas



Sungjae Im, of South Korea, hits from the fairway of the 10th hole during the second round of the Honda Classic golf tournament, Friday, March 1, 2019, in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

shot a 64 on Thursday, and Adam Svensson had one Friday. Im got through the second round on only 25 putts. He was the leading

money-winner on the Web.com Tour last year, was atop the money list for the entire season and played his way into two majors.

"I was hitting the ball really well today, so all my putts were under 10 feet," said Im, who had a 6:45 a.m. tee time. He'll be able to sleep

in much later Saturday, with his tee time scheduled for 1:35 p.m.

Even though the Honda is played in an area of South Florida where a number of PGA Tour players live — including Tiger Woods — the field includes only three of the top 20 players in the most recent world rankings. Im grew up watching Woods, staying up until the middle of the night in many cases to see him play on television.

"Just watching him makes me nervous," Im said.

He's got a 36-hole lead to be nervous about now.

Lucas Glover (69) was third at 5 under. Svensson and Brooks Koepka were among those in a group at 4 under, and 42 players were within five shots of the lead. "Can't be too upset with 1 under around here, to be honest," said Glover, the 2009 U.S. Open champion who has three straight rounds in the 60s at PGA National going back to his final-round 66 last year.

"Wind picked up a little towards the end. I didn't hit it great, but got myself into the thing."

Justin Thomas also is still in the thing, though the defending champion has a lot of work to do if he's going to go back-to-back.

Thomas, playing with a sore right wrist after a wayward swing against a tree Thursday, had an eagle, a double-bogey and a triple-bogey on his way to an eventful 74. He got in right on the 36-hole cut line, 2 over.

"Hopefully, I'll at least have a chance where I can make something up this weekend," Thomas said.

Vegas reached 7 under briefly, then finished in a group tied for 13th at 3 under after shooting a 73.

Gary Woodland extended his streak of consecutive made cuts to 21 with an eventful birdie on the par-5 18th. He went over the green with his second shot, ran his third well past the hole and coolly rolled in a 15-footer for birdie to get to 2 over. Woodland hasn't missed a cut since at The Players Championship last May. □

American Amy Olson leads by 2 strokes at LPGA Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) — Amy Olson's eagle on the front nine and a late birdie on the 16th hole were enough for the American to emerge from a five-way tie from the first-round lead to shoot a 3-under 69 and take a two-stroke lead after two rounds at the HSBC Women's World Championship.

The 26-year-old American had a two-round total of 7-under 137 Friday on the Sentosa Golf Club's Tanjong course.

There was a five-way tie for second — Inbee Park (69), Azahrrara Munoz (68), Jodi Ewart Shadoff (70), No. 1-ranked Ariya Jutanugarn

(71) and No. 3 Minjee Lee (71).

After an eagle on the par-5 eighth on Thursday, Olson did the same on the par-5 fifth in the second round.

"I've made some pretty good shots on both those par fives to set them up," Olson said.

"I hit the ball really, really good today and gave myself a ton of birdie opportunities on the front, and honestly, I just couldn't read the greens out there. I don't know if the pins were just in tricky spots but I gave up a lot of opportunities on the front nine. A couple putts kind of fell at the end, but just overall, kind of a steady



In this Sept. 16, 2018, file photo, Amy Olson of the U.S. plays an approaching shot during the Evian Championship women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France.

Associated Press

day."

No. 4 Park, making her first start of the LPGA season, said she was "feeling kind of rusty, but happy where I am at the moment."

Former No. 1 Lydia Ko shot 70 and was 2-under. Nelly Korda, who won the Women's Australian Open two weeks ago, shot 70 and was at even-par.

Korda had a painful 74 in

her opening round, and tweeted about it later.

"Well, I tried to get out of some trouble by punching out... I proceeded to hit a tree ... and slammed the grip end of the club in the ground, little did I know it was going to bounce up and hit me full force in my lip," she said on Twitter. "That's what we call Karma." □

James Harden scores 58 points, Rockets beat Heat 121-118

By The Associated Press
HOUSTON (AP) — James Harden had 58 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds and the Houston Rockets overcame a 21-point third-quarter deficit to beat the Miami Heat 121-118 on Thursday night.

Harden made 8 of 18 3-pointers and was 16 of 32 overall from the field and 18 of 18 on free throws. He fell three points short of his career high set at New York on Jan. 23, and had the most point ever against the Heat — breaking Willie Burton's mark of 53 for Philadelphia on Dec. 13, 1994. Austin Rivers scored 17 points, and Chris Paul and Gary Clark each had 14 to help Houston win its fourth straight game. The Rockets shot 49 percent, including 19 of 46 on 3-pointers.

Kelly Olynyk and Goran Dragic each had 21 points for Miami, Justise Winslow added 19 points and eight assists, and Josh Richardson had 18 points. The Heat shot 52 percent, making 15 of 28 3-pointers.

Miami was coming off a home victory over Golden State on Wednesday night on Dwyane Wade's banked 3-pointer at the buzzer. Houston played at Charlotte on Wednesday night.

76ERS 108, THUNDER 104
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Tobias Harris scored 32 points and Ben Simmons had a triple-double to help Philadelphia beat Oklahoma City.

Harris had his highest point total in eight games with Philadelphia since coming off in a trade with the Los Angeles Clippers. Simmons had 11 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists for his ninth triple-double of the season. Star center Joel Embiid missed his fourth straight game because of left knee soreness.

Russell Westbrook had his 25th triple-double of the season for Oklahoma City, finishing with 23 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists. Thunder forward Paul George sat out with sore-

ness in his right shoulder. **MAGIC 103, WARRIORS 96**
ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Aaron Gordon had 22 points and 15 rebounds, Terrence Ross added 16 points and Orlando rallied in the final three minutes to beat Golden State.

A night after they were stunned in Miami by Dwyane Wade's buzzer-beater, the Warriors blew an 11-point lead in the fourth quarter and lost for the fourth time in six games.

D.J. Augustin scored 14 points and Nikola Vucevic had 12 points and 13 rebounds to help Orlando end an 11-game losing streak to the Warriors. Orlando's last win over Golden State was on Dec. 14, 2012.

Stephen Curry scored 33 points, but was only 1 for 6 in the fourth quarter. Klay Thompson and DeMarcus Cousins each had 21 for the Warriors. They played without Kevin Durant (rest) and Andre Iguodala (sick).

JAZZ 111, NUGGETS 104
DENVER (AP) — Donovan Mitchell scored 24 points, including six in the final two minutes, and short-handed Utah ended Denver's nine-game home win streak.

Kyle Korver added 22 as the Jazz showed plenty of energy despite playing on the second night of a

back-to-back and with two of their guards out of the lineup. Utah led by as many as 18 points in the third quarter, only to see the lead trimmed to five with 8:41 remaining. Korver helped the Jazz on a 13-0 run to gain some separation and send them to their third straight victory.

Jamal Murray and Will Barton each had 21 points for Denver. All-Star big man Nikola Jokic dealt with foul trouble but still finished with 16 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists.

PACERS 122, TIMBERWOLVES 115
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bojan Bogdanovic scored a season-high 35 points and Indiana overcame Karl-Anthony Towns' big night for Minnesota.

Towns had 42 points and 17 rebounds, scoring 23 points and grabbing seven rebounds in the first quarter. Tied at 107, the Pacers closed with a 15-8 run, with Bogdanovic scoring 11 points.

CAVALIERS 125, KNICKS 118
NEW YORK (AP) — Kevin Love scored 26 points, Jordan Clarkson and Collin Sexton each had 22 and Cleveland overcame a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat New York. Allonzo Trier scored 22 points for the Knicks. □



Houston Rockets' James Harden (13) goes up for a shot as Miami Heat's Josh Richardson defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019, in Houston. The Rockets won 121-118.

Associated Press

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Islanders spoil Tavares' return to NY in 6-1 win over Leafs

By The Associated Press
UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Casey Cizikas scored twice and the New York Islanders beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-1 Thursday night in former captain John Tavares' first time back as a visiting player.

Anthony Beauvillier, Anders Lee and Valtteri Filppula also scored for the Islanders, who had lost three of their last four. Robin Lehner stopped 34 shots to help New York move two points ahead of Washington atop the Metropolitan Division one night before hosting the Capitals. The Islanders' 81 points are one more than they had all of last season.

Islanders fans, vocal on social media about their lingering displeasure with Tavares' departure via free agency last summer after he repeatedly said he wanted to stay, booed loudly when Tavares and the Maple Leafs hit the ice for pregame warmups, and when they came back out for the start of each period. They also serenaded the No. 1 overall pick in 2009 with choruses of "We Don't Need You!" and other derisive chants throughout the game, including around a video tribute midway through the first period.

Zach Hyman scored for the Maple Leafs, who had won three straight.

BRUINS 4, LIGHTNING 1
BOSTON (AP) — The Bruins scored three times in less than three minutes in the third period and snapped Eastern Conference-lead-



Toronto Maple Leafs center John Tavares (91) waits during a chorus of boos and other chants during the first period of the team's NHL hockey game against the New York Islanders, his former team, Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019, in Uniondale, N.Y.

Associated Press

ing Tampa Bay's franchise-best 10-game winning streak.

Jake DeBrusk, Noel Acciari, Patrice Bergeron and Brad Marchand all had goals for the Bruins (38-17-9), who have won nine of their last 10 games and earned at least one point in 15 straight.

The game was the first in NHL history in which teams faced off while each owning simultaneous point streaks of 14 or more contests.

A goal by Tampa Bay's Anthony Cirelli's with 7:08 remaining prevented the Lightning (49-12-4) from being shut out for the first time since losing 1-0 in overtime to St. Louis on Feb. 7.

COYOTES 5, CANUCKS 2
GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Brad Richardson scored four goals to power the Arizona Coyotes to their fifth straight victory.

Alex Galchenyuk also scored for the Coyotes, who completed a four-

game season sweep of the Canucks. Vinnie Hinostroza and Richard Panik had three assists apiece — all on goals by Richardson — and Oliver Ekman-Larsson had two assists.

Richardson, who has a single-season career-high 16 goals, scored twice in the first period and completed his second career hat trick in the second period after a deft drop pass from Richard Panik. He tipped in a pass from Hinostroza for his final goal at 8:03 of the third period. It was the Coyotes' first four-goal game since Keith Tkachuk did it on March 20, 1997.

Tanner Pearson and Antoine Roussel scored for the Canucks, who have lost five of six.

BLUE JACKETS 4, FLYERS 3, OT
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Seth Jones scored 4:27 into overtime, lifting Columbus past Philadelphia.

As the back-and-forth extra period wound down, Ar-

temi Panarin wove his way through the defense and fed Jones, who knocked the winner past Brian Elliott. Jones got his third overtime goal this season and set a franchise record with the seventh of his Blue Jackets career.

Panarin, Oliver Bjorkstrand and Scott Harrington also scored for the Blue Jackets, who rebounded from a loss Tuesday night to Pittsburgh and hopped over the idle Penguins and Carolina Hurricanes into third place in the Metropolitan Division. Sergei Bobrovsky made 28 saves.

Travis Sanheim had two goals, Jakub Voracek also scored and Elliott had 36 saves as his two-game winning streak came to an end. Elliott is the seventh goalie used by Philadelphia this season, and the Flyers will set an NHL record when recently acquired Cam Talbot starts Saturday at New Jersey to raise that number to eight.

OILERS 4, SENATORS 2
OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Connor McDavid scored a slick goal, Mikko Koskinen made 35 saves and Edmonton Oilers beat league-worst Ottawa.

Sam Gagner, Colby Cave and Zack Kassian also scored for the Oilers, who stopped a two-game skid. Chris Tierney and Mark Borowiecki scored for the Senators, who lost their sixth straight, and Craig Anderson stopped 22 shots in his ninth straight defeat.

It was the first home game for Ottawa since Mark

Stone was traded to Vegas, but thanks to McDavid the Senators had one of their biggest crowds of the season.

STARS 4, KINGS 3, OT
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Roope Hintz scored 3:19 into overtime and Dallas moved into a wild-card spot in the Western Conference.

Hintz scored in a mad scramble in front of the net after Alexander Radulov's shot bounced off Los Angeles goalie Jonathan Quick. Tyler Seguin, Mattias Janmark and Radek Faksa also scored for Dallas, while Ben Lovejoy and Blake Comeau each had two assists. Anton Khudobin made 27 saves.

Anze Kopitar scored two goals and had an assist for Los Angeles, which has dropped 10 straight — the second-longest losing streak in franchise history. Brendan Leipsic had a goal and Quick stopped 29 shots.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 6, PANTHERS 5, SO
LAS VEGAS (AP) — Shea Theodore's goal in the second round of the shootout lifted the Vegas Golden Knights past Florida.

Malcolm Subban, who made 32 saves, stopped all three of Florida's attempts in the shootout.

Reilly Smith scored twice, while Paul Stastny, Jon Merrill and Colin Miller scored for Vegas.

Mike Hoffman scored two goals for Florida, with Aaron Ekblad, Aleksander Barkov, Jonathan Huberdeau also scoring for the Panthers. □

San Antonio Spurs part with veteran center Pau Gasol

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs announced a buyout agreement with Pau Gasol on Friday, allowing the veteran center to become playoff-eligible with another team.

Gasol has been used sparingly by the Spurs of late, appearing in only two of their last seven games and his playing time has dropped this season to just over 12 minutes per game. "Pau Gasol is an exceptional individual and the ultimate professional," coach Gregg Popovich said. "We are grateful for his contributions on the court, in the locker room and in

our community." The Spaniard signed with the Spurs in July 2016 and appeared in a total of 168 games with San Antonio, averaging 10.0 points, 7.4 rebounds and 2.6 assists in 22.4 minutes. The 18-year NBA veteran and two-time champion is a six-time All-Star. In 1,223 career games, he has averaged 17.1 points, 9.2 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.59 blocks in 33.5 minutes. He is one of four players with over 20,000 points, 11,000 rebounds, 3,500 assists and 1,500 blocks in his career, along with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Tim Duncan and Kevin Garnett. □



San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich watches the team play the Toronto Raptors during the second half of an NBA basketball game Friday, Feb. 22, 2019, in Toronto.

Associated Press

Tightening up defense key for U.S. women after opening tie



Japan's Emi Nakajima, left, and United States' Abby Dahlkemper, right, reach for the ball during the second half of SheBelieves Cup soccer match, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019, in Chester, Pa. The match ended in a 2-2 tie.

Associated Press

By TERESA M. WALKER
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Looking at how the Americans gave up two late goals, including one in stoppage time, has given them a timely reminder of what they need to work on before defending their Women's World Cup title in June.

Tighten up defensively.

"Honestly, the two goals is probably the best thing we can take away and making sure that we're focused and locked in defensively the whole time," forward Megan Rapinoe said Friday.

Japan managed a 2-2 tie Wednesday night in the Americans' opener of the SheBelieves Cup in Philadelphia, a round-robin tournament serving as a World Cup tuneup. Coach Jill Ellis and the Americans watched tape of that tie

Thursday after arriving in Nashville for a game Saturday against England at Nissan Stadium, home of the NFL's Tennessee Titans.

Rapinoe said her comments after the game on needing better defense didn't change once she watched the tape.

"Defensively, we've made some mistakes on the goals that were very clear. So obviously went over that and cleared that up and try not to make those again," Rapinoe said.

The biggest issue simply may be focus, especially in soccer where a team can do nothing until late in the game.

"Understanding that as a team, we need to really lock in and focus every single minute of the game, especially thinking toward the World Cup and those biggest moments," Rapi-

noe said. "It comes down to one or two moments in the game that are really critical."

Japan, which lost the 2015 World Cup final to the U.S., scored two goals with a third shot hitting a post.

Ellis called those goals "tough lessons" easier to learn now.

"Game management is a massive part of going into a big tournament, and so there were moments there, decisions we made as coaches and players within that you wish you had a do-over, but at least you have the experience," Ellis said. "So I think that was a massive takeaway for us, as it should be."

The Americans played Japan without defender Becky Sauerbrunn and midfielder Lindsey Horan because of injury. Ellis said the plan was for Sauerbrunn

to take part in training Friday but that the defender was "highly unlikely" to play Saturday. Brazil and Japan play the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Defender Abby Dahlkemper said they know they need to tighten up. The Americans also talked about game management, valuing the ball and organization.

"Just kind of tightening up and being on the same page and definitely learning from those mistakes," Dahlkemper said.

Having the chance to play against top teams before the World Cup and see what areas need tweaking or improvement is the biggest benefit of a tournament like the SheBelieves Cup, which debuted in 2016. Ellis said this tournament, with points standings and travel, is a key prepara-

tion.

"The most important piece is we're playing against world-class teams before we get ready for the summer.

This tournament, which closes Tuesday with the United States playing Brazil in Tampa, Florida, features four of the world's top 10 teams. England, which finished third in the 2015 World Cup in Canada, is ranked fourth.

"To get three world-class teams coming to the U.S. and getting those games under our belt is super important for the big year ahead," Dahlkemper said. "Really taking advantage of every single minute we can on the field together and you know tweaking the things we need to tweak and getting better and learning and really hitting our peak in June." □



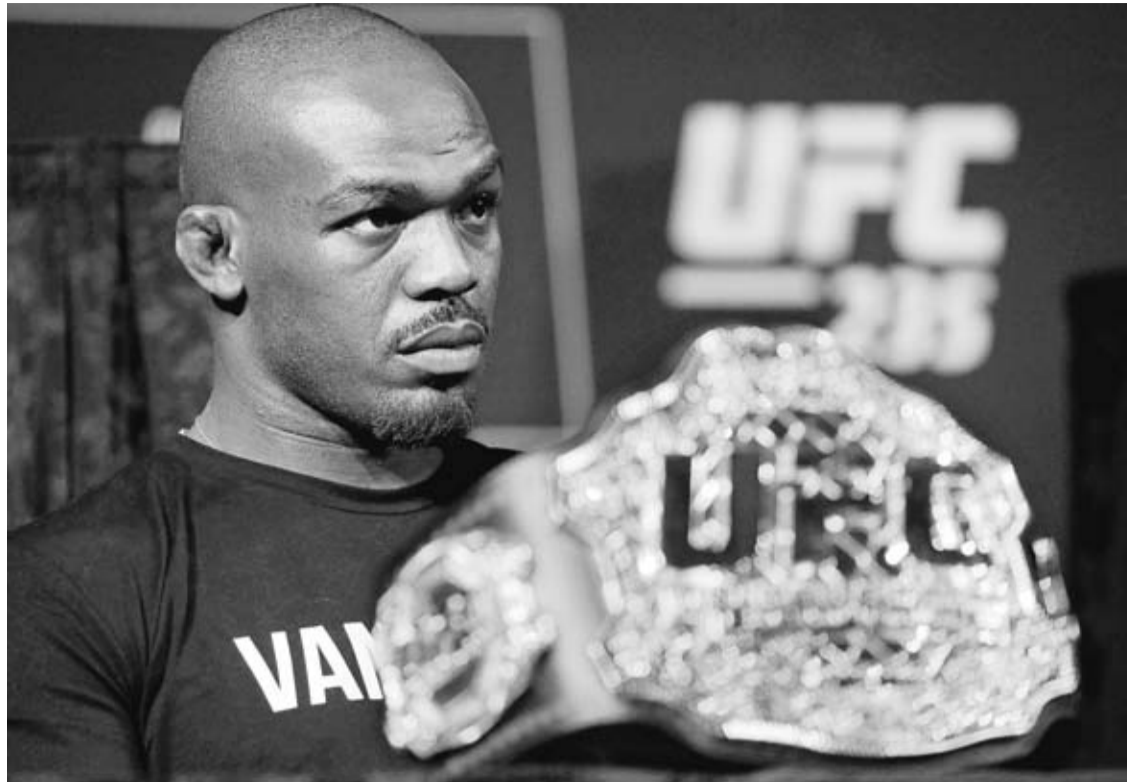
Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece returns the ball to Gael Monfils of France during their semi final match at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championship, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Friday, March 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Federer reaches semis in Dubai as he chases 100th title

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Roger Federer is two matches away from his 100th career title after beating Marton Fucsovics 7-6 (6), 6-4 on Thursday to reach the Dubai Championships semifinals. Federer faced two set points in the tiebreaker but Fucsovics hit two forehands into the net to let the Swiss star take control. Federer then wasted an early break in the second set but broke again for a 5-4 lead before serving out the match when Fucsovics sent a forehand return wide. "The tiebreak was tough. I'm happy I found a way to get out of that one," Federer said. "That was an exciting match, to say the least." Federer is looking to become the second man in the professional era to reach 100 tour-level tournament titles, joining Jimmy Connors, who won 109. Seven of Federer's previous 99 triumphs have come in Dubai.

He will next face sixth-seeded Borna Coric, who beat Nikoloz Basilashvili 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (1). Coric beat Federer twice last year, including in the Halle final. "He's really found his game," Federer said of Coric. "We've had a couple tough matches as of late." The other semifinal will pit rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece against French veteran Gael Monfils. Tsitsipas outlasted Hubert Hurkacz 7-6 (4), 6-7 (1), 6-1, while Monfils beat Ricardas Berankis 6-1, 6-7 (3), 6-2. Both Tsitsipas and Monfils are coming off tournament wins in Europe last week and have a 1-1 head-to-head record. "We're both serving really well," Tsitsipas said. "We have similar game style. I guess I'm a bit more aggressive than him, but he's much faster. I'm going to have to deal with all of that, be patient, play with passion as well, just wait for the opportunities to break him." □



In this Jan. 31, 2019, file photo, Light heavyweight champion Jon Jones attends a news conference for the UFC 235 mixed martial arts event in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Jones clear-eyed, clear-headed facing Anthony Smith at UFC 235

By **GREG BEACHAM**
AP Sports Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Jon Jones used to cry for days when he heard about his positive doping tests. Although his system still isn't clean, Jones' eyes are finally dry heading into UFC 235. The UFC's light heavyweight champion memorably wept in a news conference after getting pulled from UFC 200 in 2016, realizing his career was headed into a spiral. Jones cried again in a friend's arms a few months ago when tests showed more traces of the steroid metabolite that could be in his system for years. But when two more tests last month revealed tiny amounts of the metabolite, Jones finally didn't cry. Although the results are casting a shadow over his every achievement, he has come to grips with his predicament — and more importantly to Jones, he is allowed to fight on. Jones said he will take on Anthony Smith on Saturday night in the main event at T-Mobile Arena with clear eyes and a clean conscience. "I'm at a place now where I've been hurt so many times," Jones said. "So many

things have happened — I've caused a lot of my own pain, and there's been a lot of pain inflicted — that I just feel like I'm so comfortable with this scenario. I'm not going to allow anybody to hurt me anymore. ... I take responsibility for this whole thing, (but) I'm not going to let it bend me or break me." Jones has always denied knowingly taking performance-enhancing substances, and mixed martial arts' various regulatory bodies believe his recent results are microscopic echoes of past violations, not a reason to ban arguably the most gifted fighter of his generation. Jones has grown increasingly defiant in recent months, standing up to condemnation for what he claims to be an honest mistake with a supplement — a stance that makes his opponents laugh. Now 31, Jones (23-1) is moving on to chase big paydays and career-defining excellence. He is a huge favorite against Smith (31-13), but Jones believes he is largely competing against himself. "I do kind of feel like my younger self," Jones said Thursday. "I feel set free from a lot of things that's hap-

pened. I've finally learned how to forgive myself for a lot of things, and so I feel reborn in a way. I feel like I have the second half of my career, and the question is, what are you going to do with this second half of your career? My second half, I vow to respect myself better. Respect my body, respect my team, respect the organization and the fans, and just try to do better. And I know a great start to that is staying in the gym. Staying busy." In fact, Jones is picking up speed: He is in his second fight in just nine weeks at UFC 235. Jones' suspensions and legal woes limited him to just two fights in a nearly four-year stretch of his prime, forever depriving the sport of the chance to see the full scope of his career. But he followed up his third-round stoppage of Alexander Gustafsson in California last December by agreeing to headline another pay-per-view show. UFC 235 also features welterweight champion Tyron Woodley's defense against Kamaru Usman and 34-year-old wrestling star Ben Askren's long-awaited UFC debut against former champion Robbie Lawler. □

Plenty of respect and confidence for Canelo, Jacobs

By BARRY WILNER

NEW YORK (AP) — The resumes are impressive. The mutual respect is beyond question. The determination is through the roof.

So why shouldn't the middleweight title unification bout between Canelo Alvarez and Daniel Jacobs be a classic, a fight-of-the-year candidate?

Ask both champions and they say that's exactly what to expect on May 4 in Las Vegas. And while that might seem like hype for the fight, there is something of an aura around this matchup.

"He is a very strong mental fighter," Alvarez said Thursday about Jacobs, who is nicknamed "Miracle Man" and overcame bone cancer to return to the ring. "His history shows his perseverance and that is a big strength for him. He has that will to win. I invite that in an opponent; that is the type of fighter I am."

Mexico's Alvarez, 28, is considered by many the best in the game today. His epic fights with Gennady Golovkin — a draw and then a tight victory, with a third meeting a distinct possibility — are the most shining

moments in a 51-1-2 record with 35 knockouts. He became a three-division world champion by knocking out Rocky Fielding in three rounds to take the WBA super middleweight crown in December but now moves back where he probably belongs. And the middleweight division is the deepest and strongest around.

Jacobs, 32, is a logical foe, and that's good for the sport considering how logic rarely plays into matchups. Since going 12 rounds with Triple G and losing a very close decision two years ago, Jacobs has three wins and owns the IBF crown. The thought of adding Alvarez's WBA and WBC belts is enticing but hardly the only motivation for the Brooklyn native.

"I never get tired of inspiring people and telling my story," he said. "Strangers, people I meet in airports when I travel, they are fascinated because it's a feel-good story. I am blessed with a second chance at life and a career, and that is the message I want to get out to the world. That is something special, and I want to inspire so many

more people."

The bout will be on a special weekend for Mexico, on the eve of Cinco de Mayo, and Alvarez prizes the opportunity to do his thing in the ring "for my country, my family, my fans." He knows, however, that taking on Jacobs will be anything but a party.

He likes that idea.

"Because of his experience and his talent and his confidence and all of his virtues, this has all the qualities of a fight of the year," Alvarez noted, adding he's watched film of many of Jacobs' fights to get a feel for the taller (by 3 inches) American. He also has watched lots of his own bouts.

"Every fight, I feel I learn something from it. In all of my fights, I focus on learning, and especially learning from the mistakes," he added. "Every fight, I watch to see the good things and to focus on whatever errors I have made to make sure they don't happen again." Those gaffes are so rare that Alvarez hasn't lost since Floyd Mayweather outpointed him in 2014, a fight Alvarez accepted when he was still quite raw,



WBC and WBA middleweight world champion Canelo Alvarez (50-1-2, 34 KOs), left, and IBF middleweight world champion Daniel Jacobs (35-2, 29 KOs), right, pose with clenched fists during a pre-fight press conference on Wednesday Feb. 27, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

though he already owned two super welterweight titles. He has improved since, and only Golovkin truly has challenged Alvarez in the last 4½ years.

Jacobs will present a major challenge in the fight that will be streamed by DAZN as part of Alvarez's \$365 million deal for 11 fights.

"I understand the game now and what you need to be great," Jacobs said. "This is my shot and I am on a mission. Canelo always shows up and gives his best, so do I. He's used to the big spotlight, and for me this is everything. I plan to take over the show and be the headliner." □

Olympic medalist gets 3-month ban for accidental doping

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

If Devin Logan has her way, she'll be the first and last to serve this sort of doping ban.

The 2014 Olympic silver medalist is in the final week of a three-month suspension, announced Friday, for using a cannabis-based product she says contained higher-than-allowed levels of the banned substance, THC.

Though THC positives are nothing new — the chemical is found in marijuana — Logan's case appears to be the first-of-its-kind in the United States involving Cannabidiol (CBD) drops, which athletes are increasingly using to manage pain. What wasn't unique about this case, however, is that it involved taking a product that she says had bad

information on the ingredients label. It was listed as having only trace amounts of THC — which is banned above certain thresholds by the World Anti-Doping Agency — but clearly contained more.

"Everyone should look at my case and go deeper into their own investigations," Logan said.

As marijuana and marijuana-based products become more widely legalized and accepted, supplements such as CBD will make more headlines in sports; the NFL and football players, for instance, are wrestling with exactly where these sorts of treatments should fit into their game. Just Thursday, Martha Stewart signed a deal to help a marijuana grower market its own brand of the product.



In this Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014 file photo, women's freestyle skiing slopestyle silver medalist Devin Logan of the United States holds her medal during the medals ceremony at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Associated Press

The 26-year-old Logan, who took silver in slopestyle five years ago at the Olympics, said she was shocked when she tested positive in December. "I take 100 percent responsibility for it," she said. "Being a veteran of my sport, I should know better." Logan is among the few in freestyle skiing who shoulders a full schedule on both the halfpipe and the slopestyle courses. It inflicts a brutal beating on her body. She said almost everyone in the action-sports world is looking for ways to manage pain, and talk of CBD is on the rise. Logan's six-month ban was reduced to three months because she took educational courses.

"Anybody using CBD products should be aware that they may contain THC, whatever the packaging says," Shaw said. □

Don't panic: How parents can deal with internet hoaxes

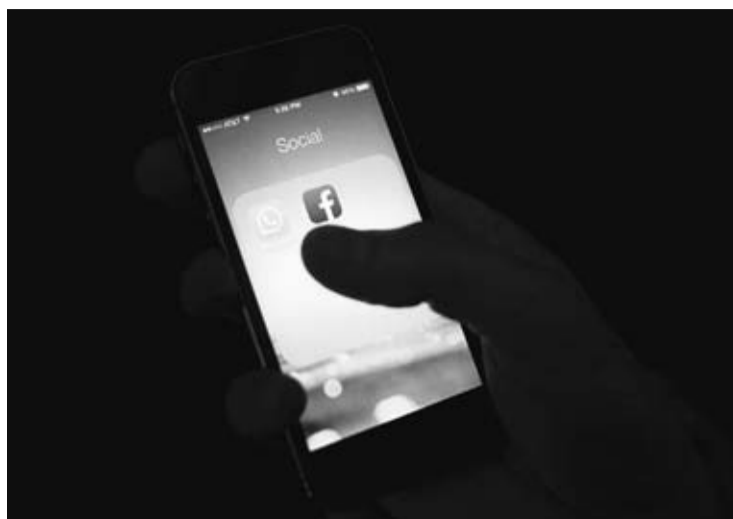
By MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The latest parental panic on social media — over a purported challenge for kids to complete harmful tasks — elevates the importance of establishing an open dialogue with children and taking advantage of online parental controls.

Warnings about the "Momo challenge" swept Facebook and other social media in recent days, as parents worried about purported videos that encourage children to hurt themselves or do other harmful tasks such as turning on stoves without telling their parents. The parental warnings were accompanied by a disturbing image of a grinning creature with matted hair and bulging eyes.

But the challenge is believed to be a hoax. It's unclear how many videos exist or to what extent they have circulated, among



This Feb. 19, 2014, file photo shows the Facebook app icon on an iPhone in New York.

Associated Press

children or elsewhere. Some of the videos might have been made in response to media attention surrounding the challenge. Meanwhile, the image of the grinning creature is reportedly from a Japanese sculpture.

Fact-checking site Snopes said the challenge first appeared in mid-2018 linked to suicide reports without

actual evidence. YouTube said it hasn't received "any recent evidence of videos showing or promoting the Momo challenge" on its service.

So why the panic? Experts say internet hoaxes focused on children tap into fears that parents have about protecting their children online and elsewhere. In addition to anxi-

ety about "screen time" in general, there is certainly plenty of problematic videos that children shouldn't watch. It's hard for parents to police everything children do online. Fears were compounded when some school systems, local media and even police sent out their own warnings, accompanied by fuzzy facts. "All moral panics feed on some degree of reality, but then they get blown out of proportion," said Steve Jones, a professor of communications at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

These hoaxes echo panics from decades past, like the false belief in the 1980s that teenagers were hearing Satanic messages in rock song lyrics, he said.

"Once the internet is involved in the mix, things get speeded up and they get more widespread," Jones said.

The most important thing parents can do is to es-

tablish an open dialogue with their children about what they're seeing online and hearing from other children, said Jill Murphy, editor-in-chief at Common Sense Media, a San Francisco-based nonprofit group focused on kids' use of media and technology.

"Parents are increasingly frustrated with feeling surprised or caught off guard by what is being put in front of their kids," she said. Whether the "challenges" are real or not, she said, "they elevate the idea that they may or may not know exactly what their kids are absorbing through these platforms."

That's why talking to children is important, she said. "Take the right time to have an age-appropriate conversation, and help your kids understand not everything on the internet is real." She said parents should also take advantage of parental settings built into many products and services. Most web browsers can block certain websites, limit what children can see and provide a report

about what sites a child visited. Smartphones and tablets can limit screen time and access to apps. YouTube Kids lets parents disable search and turn off "autoplay." Murphy said these free tools are good enough; no need to pay for third-party parental apps. Another option is to download apps from shows or channels directly rather than going through streaming services such as YouTube. PBS, Peppa Pig, Nick Jr. and other popular services for kids have their own apps, with pre-screened videos deemed appropriate for kids.

And though it may seem contradictory, going online to research the hoaxes could also help. The Momo hoax was debunked fairly quickly after people questioned it, Jones said. Give weight to trusted news sources and fact-checking sites like Snopes.com.

"Take a deep breath and go online as strange as that may seem in some sense," he said. □

YouTube suspends comments on videos of kids

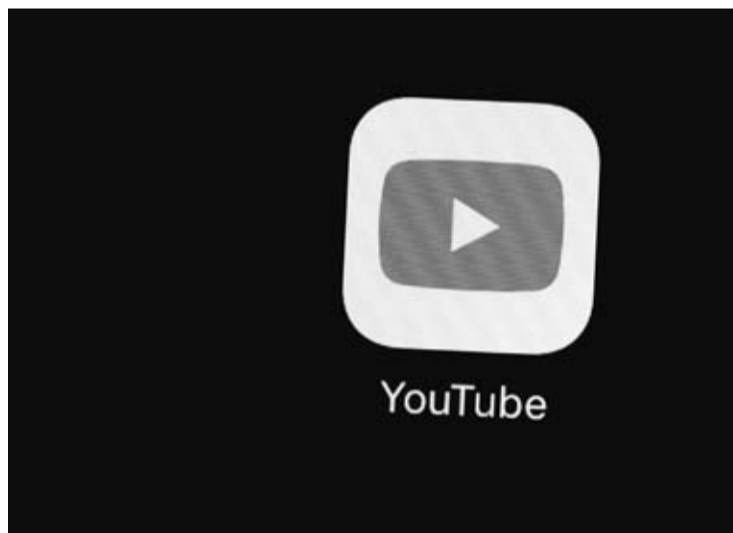
RACHEL LERMAN

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — YouTube said Thursday it will turn off comments on nearly all videos featuring kids — potentially affecting millions of posts on the site — after reports last week that pedophiles were leaving inappropriate comments on innocuous videos of children.

The change comes as YouTube grapples with moderating content across its platform as concerns about hate speech, violence and conspiracy theories continue to plague it. It will take YouTube several months to disable comments on all videos featuring minors, the company said. It already started the process last week when it turned off comments from tens of millions of videos.

Advertisers including Nestle, AT&T and Fortnite-maker Epic Games pulled ads from YouTube last week after the inappropriate comments about children were unearthed by a pop-



This March 20, 2018 file photo shows the YouTube app on an iPad in Baltimore.

Associated Press

ular YouTuber and media reports. At least one company, Nestle, was satisfied with YouTube's response and reinstated ads late last week.

A small number of channels which have videos featuring kids will be allowed to keep comments turned on. But they must be known to YouTube and must actively monitor the comments beyond the standard monitoring tools

YouTube provides. Turning off comments on such a large number of videos seems an "extreme reaction," said eMarketer analyst Paul Verna. But the issue involves the safety of children, so it makes sense YouTube would want to act quickly, he said.

Comments aren't the main focus of the video-publishing site, but turning them off will likely diminish the experience for many us-

ers and video creators, he said.

YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki acknowledged the concerns Thursday, tweeting, "Nothing is more important to us than ensuring the safety of young people on the platform."

The company said it has also released an updated version of its automated moderating system that it expects will identify and delete two times as many inappropriate comments. YouTube, like Facebook, Twitter and other sites that allow user publishing, have faced increasing calls to monitor what appears on their sites and get rid of unsuitable content. The companies all say they have taken action to protect users. But issues keep popping up.

Concerns about YouTube comments weren't even a top priority for advertisers and viewers a couple weeks ago, Verna said.

"It just makes you wonder, what's the next thing that going to happen?" □

Home Depot sales cool along with real estate market

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Strains in the nation's housing sector emerged in the aisles of Home Depot in the last few months of 2018 and appear likely to carry over into this year.

In the fourth quarter, Home Depot fell short on profit, revenue and same-stores sales as rising real estate prices cast a chill over U.S. home sales.

The company does not expect its comparable-store sales growth, a key gauge of health in the retail industry, will be as strong this year as it was in 2018.

Shares fell 3 percent Tuesday at the opening bell as more disconcerting news about the U.S. housing market continued to roll out.

The number of homes being built in December plunged to the lowest level in more than two years, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday, a possible sign that builders anticipate fewer new homes will be sold this year.

Housing starts fell 11.2 per-



This Aug. 23, 2018, file photo shows a Home Depot store in Orlando, Fla. Home Depot Inc. reports financial results Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

cent in December from the previous month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate 1.08 million. It's the slowest pace of construction since September 2016. Supply stores like Home Depot can often thrive when new home sales dip because people will buy existing homes, rather than new. However, the Nation-

al Association of Realtors said last week that sales of those homes dropped 1.2 percent in January to their worst pace in more than three years, signaling that the weakness in the U.S. housing market more broad.

Would-be homebuyers are increasingly priced out of the market as years of

climbing prices and slim housing inventories put ownership out of reach for many Americans.

Those declines can ripple out to companies that sell materials like Home Depot and its rival, Lowe's, which slid in tandem with Home Depot in early trading.

"A material slowdown in the housing market - where

both sales and prices have been under pressure for some time - has stymied demand for home improvement products," wrote Neil Saunders, managing director of GlobalData Retail. "In our view, this has likely affected the momentum of growth at Home Depot."

For the three months ended Feb. 3, Home Depot earned \$2.34 billion, or \$2.09 per share, for the three months ended Feb. 3. That's far short of the per-share earnings of \$2.22 Wall Street was looking for, according to a survey by FactSet, though an extra week in the period helped push profit and sales higher.

A year ago the Atlanta home improvement retailer earned \$1.78 billion, or \$1.52 per share. The current quarter was also nicked by a one-time charge of 16 cents per share. Revenue climbed to \$26.49 billion, from \$23.88 billion, with the extra week adding approximately \$1.7 billion in sales. But that that too, was short of forecasts. □

Associated Press

US stocks rise on hopes for a trade deal with China

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are rising Friday, reversing a three-day losing streak as investors digest news of a potential resolution to the U.S.'s trade war with China.

U.S. officials are reportedly preparing a deal that could be signed within a month, according to news agency Bloomberg. The trade war between the world's largest economies has raised prices for consumers and companies. It's also deepened concerns that escalating tariffs could worsen the global economy's slowdown.

President Donald Trump held off a threat to impose higher tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese products as negotiations continued. Washington accuses Beijing of stealing foreign companies' technology or pressuring them to hand it over.

Technology and bank stocks led the early gains.



In this Feb. 15, 2019, file photo trader Tommy Kalikas works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Retailers also rose. Gap surged on plans to spin off its Old Navy brand. Foot Locker rose after reporting strong financial results and

a solid forecast. Investors have remained confident in the strength of the U.S. economy, despite weak economic reports.

Consumer spending in December took its biggest tumble in nine years. Disappointing retail sales was another sign that growth

slowed at the end of 2018.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 90 points, or 0.4 percent, to 26,008 as of 10:45 a.m. The S&P 500 index and Nasdaq composite were up 0.5 percent.

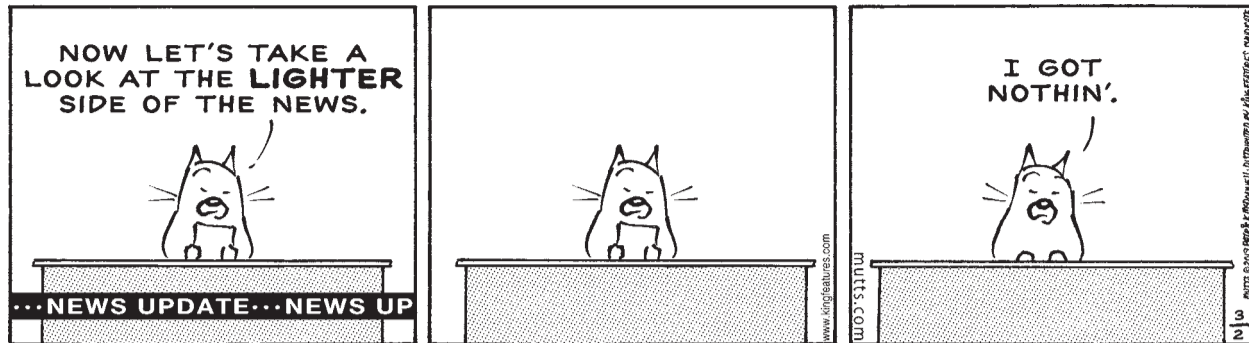
OLD NAVY SAILING AWAY: Gap surged 18 percent after it told investors it will spin off its Old Navy brand into a separate company. The retailer will retain its namesake brand, along with Banana Republic and others, in a new, yet to be named company.

The split comes as Old Navy has thrived while Gap struggles with increasing competition from the likes of Target and Amazon.

RUNNING START: Foot Locker jumped 8 percent after the footwear and athletic apparel retailer blew past investor expectations for the fourth quarter. The company also expects double-digit profit growth in 2019. □

Associated Press

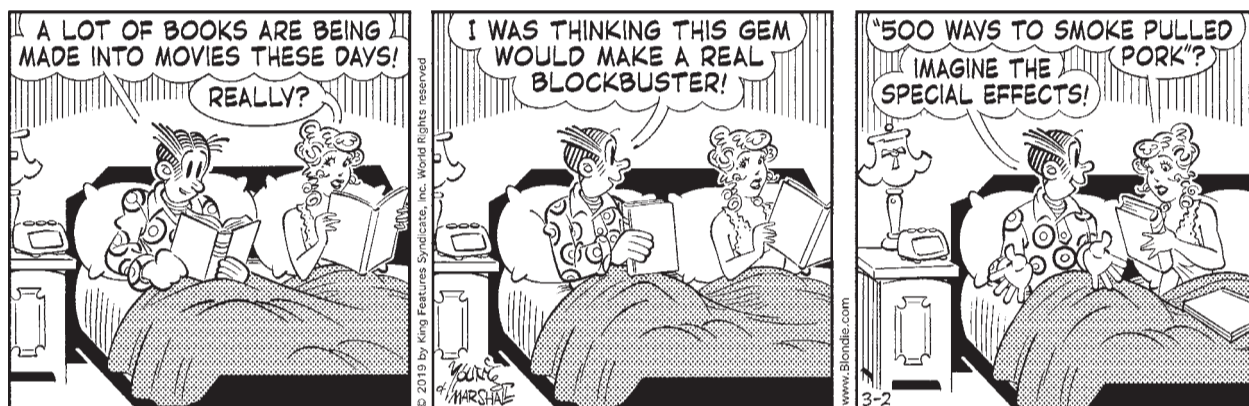
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	6		9	1	3		4	
5			4		2			3
2	7						3	8
9								6
1	4						2	7
8			5		7			1
	2		1	4	8		5	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/02

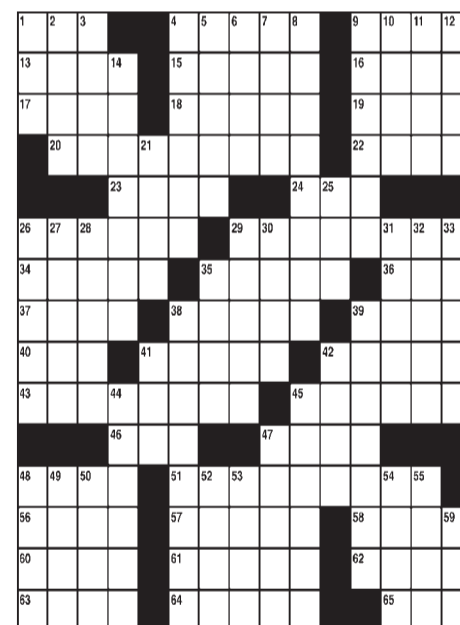
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	4	9	6	8	5	2	1	3
2	5	8	3	1	9	7	4	6
6	3	1	4	2	7	8	5	9
3	1	7	9	6	2	4	8	5
5	6	4	8	7	3	9	2	1
8	9	2	1	5	4	6	3	7
4	8	6	5	9	1	3	7	2
1	7	3	2	4	6	5	9	8
9	2	5	7	3	8	1	6	4

ACROSS

- 1 Space; opening
- 4 ___ nothing; extreme outcomes
- 9 Snatch
- 13 Beame & Fortas
- 15 Twill weave fabric
- 16 Rat ___; daily grind
- 17 Bird's bill
- 18 Fables
- 19 ___ and crafts
- 20 Playwright
- 22 Upper-body garment
- 23 Georgia ___; college in Atlanta
- 24 Actress Jamie ___ Curtis
- 26 Sharp shrill cry
- 29 Primary school textbooks
- 34 ___ the town red; make merry
- 35 Wide gap
- 36 Belly
- 37 Breathing organ
- 38 Sword fights
- 39 Excessive publicity
- 40 "___ all Greek to me"
- 41 Dull speakers
- 42 Cone-shaped home
- 43 Adolescent
- 45 Dissolved
- 46 Afternoon hour
- 47 Struggle to breathe
- 48 "The ___ is my Shepherd..."
- 51 Lending a hand
- 56 Like fine wine
- 57 Lion's cries
- 58 Mealtime
- 60 Cheese from France
- 61 2 strokes under par
- 62 Hurricane wind
- 63 ___ away; dismiss
- 64 Gown
- 65 Thoreau's initials



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 3/2/19

DOWN

- 1 Chatter
- 2 Laid up
- 3 Bosc or Bartlett
- 4 Lay into
- 5 Reluctant
- 6 "___ Marleen"; WWII song
- 7 Bullring cheers
- 8 Fidgety
- 9 Country road surface
- 10 Unusual
- 11 ___ up; misbehaves
- 12 "The ___-laid plans of mice and men..."
- 14 Rollerblading
- 21 Swap ___; flea market
- 25 American ___; ND's state tree
- 26 Divide
- 27 ___ cuisine; fine food
- 28 Run water over
- 29 Transparent
- 30 Chums
- 31 North African nation
- 32 India's dollar
- 33 Spirited horse
- 35 Remedy
- 38 Like the pages of a well-read book

Friday's Puzzle Solved

BAT	ASSES	GRIP
BIND	SHADE	LANA
ANNS	SINGALONGS	
ASI	TANGY	URGES
HOWIE	ALI	
SPINAL	DILATE	
CELLS	SAILS	HEY
ADAY	LIMBS	MERE
RAT	PAPAS	MARIA
LEARNS	FORMER	
LID	ROMEO	
ALAMO	BRADS	SHE
COLORBLIND	STAY	
TOSS	BADGE	KATE
SPOT	CHEER	ITS

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- 39 Portion of food on a plate
- 41 Embargo
- 42 Quiz
- 44 Gave a silent assent
- 45 The ___; common people
- 47 Little misses
- 48 Popular dogs, for short
- 49 Meanie
- 50 ___ in; bring under control
- 52 Fly high
- 53 Cooking herb
- 54 Ark builder
- 55 Precious metal
- 59 Hair covering



In this Feb. 21, 2019 photo, provided by UC Santa Barbara, A hoodwinker sunfish lays on the beach at Coal Oil Point Reserve in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Associated Press

Rare sea creature washes ashore in Southern California

Associated Press
SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — A 7-foot (215-centimeter) sea creature that washed ashore in Southern California has been identified as a hoodwinker sunfish, a recently identified rare species thought to live in the Southern Hemisphere. The University of California, Santa Barbara, said an intern spotted the stranded fish last week at Sands

Beach in the university's Coal Oil Point Natural Reserve. The intern alerted Jessica Nielsen, a conservation specialist at Coal Oil Point who initially thought it was a type of local sunfish and posted photos to the reserve's Facebook page. Nyegaard sent specific instructions to California about what to photograph and tissue samples that should be taken. □

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Child Abuse Prevention
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Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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Science Says: People tend to believe informants like Cohen

By SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — We tend to believe informants like Michael Cohen, studies show and psychologists say.

It doesn't matter if the person is behind bars or has confessed to lying, as Cohen has: Juries usually believe an informant, said Jeffrey Neuschatz, a University of Alabama psychologist who has studied jailhouse informants' testimony for a decade.

Cohen, President Donald Trump's former lawyer, pleaded guilty last year to lying to Congress. On Wednesday, he gave harsh testimony about Trump to a U.S. House committee, where he found a receptive audience from Democrats and drew the ire of Republicans who labeled him a felon and a liar. Trump, who had earlier called Cohen a "Rat" on Twitter, slammed the testimony as "fake."

Neuschatz said Cohen fits in with the informants he has studied. And "people almost reflexively believe confessions. In the case



In this Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019, file photo, Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, reacts as he finishes a day of testimony to the House Oversight and Reform Committee, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

of Cohen, he's given a sort of confession here," Neuschatz said.

"I think he came across as very credible, whether he is or not," he added.

The theory is that people tend to believe others — called "a truth bias" — unless they are given a reason not to, he said.

"People tend to take what other people say at face value," said Saul Kassin, a psychology professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Jurors sometimes even disregard their own biases, Neuschatz said.

He did studies with mock jurors who said they wouldn't

trust informants who repeatedly testify against defendants. The jurors were told the informants had testified as many as 20 times, and the panelists usually believed their testimony. Another of his mock jury tests showed convictions jumped from 30 percent to 62 percent with the ad-

dition of a jailhouse informant. Informants "acknowledge that they have done misdeeds and say 'now you should believe me.' That seems to me what Cohen did," Neuschatz said. And then people think "no one would be admitting to doing something they didn't do, so they must be telling the truth," Neuschatz said.

In court, when jurors think an informant has little to gain or even is hurt by coming forward, they are more likely to believe the person, the experts said.

That's why University of Massachusetts psychology professor Robert Feldman, who has studied everyday lying for 30 years, said he believes Cohen: "He doesn't have much to gain by lying," he said. He said when he evaluates people, his key question is: "What would the lie get you?"

Cohen has already been sentenced to three years in prison, though he could have it reduced later at the request of prosecutors because of cooperation.

There is one added confusing factor in the Cohen case: politics. □



This undated photo provided by the European Space Agency, ESA, shows the surface of the Mars.

Associated Press

Scientists see evidence of underground lakes system on Mars

By FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Scientists say images of craters taken by European and American space probes show there likely once was a planet-wide system of underground lakes on Mars.

Data collected by NASA and ESA probes orbiting the red planet provide the first geological evidence for an ancient Martian groundwater system, according to a study by researchers in Italy and the Netherlands published in the Journal of Geophysical Research.

Francesco Salese, one of the scientists involved, said in an email Friday that the findings confirm earlier models and smaller-scale studies, and that the underground lakes may have been connected to each

other.

The notion of water on Mars has long fascinated scientists because of the possibility that the planet may have once harbored similar conditions to those that allowed life to develop on Earth. Patches of ice previously spotted on Mars provide tantalizing hints of a watery past for the arid world.

Researchers said flow channels, pool-shaped valleys and fan-shaped sediment deposits seen in dozens of kilometers-deep craters in Mars' northern hemisphere would have needed water to form.

Co-author Gian Gabriele Ori said an ocean some scientists speculate Mars may once have had between three and four billion years ago could even

have been connected to the underground lakes.

The researchers also saw signs of minerals such as clay on Mars that would have required long periods of exposure to water to form. Ralf Jaumann, a planetary scientist at the German Aerospace Center who wasn't directly involved in the study, said such sites are a good starting point for future Mars landers to search for signs of ancient life.

However Jack Mustard, a professor of geological sciences at Brown University who also wasn't part of the study, questioned the paper's claims, saying he didn't see evidence of underground lakes in the data. "But I am probably just a skeptical Martian," he added. □

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Balmain celebrates trouble-makers in sexy Paris show

By THOMAS ADAMSON
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Balmain celebrated rebellious trouble-makers at Paris Fashion Week Friday in a sexy show with spikes and studs, while Issey Miyake turned fashion design on its head with a fabric that can be molded and shaped by its wearer. Here are some highlights of fall-winter 2019 ready-to-wear collections.

BALMAIN'S TROUBLE-MAKERS

Metal boot tassels whipped fiercely against the models' legs as they walked.

Spikes on stiff A-line skirts led to menacing studs, kinky long black leather gloves and see-through and black PVC.

The fall-winter woman, Balmain said, was born of the recent need to don "new defensive armor for battles that we hoped were already won."

Whether or not this was a veiled reference to the post-#MeToo era, designer



Models wear creations as part of the Issey Miyake ready to wear Fall-Winter 2019-2020 collection, that was presented in Paris, Friday, March 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Olivier Rousteing was definitely in a fighting and rebellious spirit this season.

With signature excess, large 80s shoulders and ultra-cinched corset-like waists captured a notion of

hyper-femininity, pushed to its limits.

One truncated dress, with a sheer spliced waist, sported black and white horizontal stripes — nature's patterning to indicate danger. It

had guests snapping at their cameras.

American actress Shailene Woodley applauded from the front row.

Though designs clearly aimed to strengthen a

woman's natural form, some of the layered dropped-waist looks had some issues with proportion and made even these six foot gazelle-like waifs look square.

MIYAKE: IN IT FOR THE DOUGH DOUGH

The Franco-Japanese house of Issey Miyake prides itself on the use of cutting-edge "techno-fabrics."

Their collection, held in a spacious college hall in Paris' northwest, began with a bounce and a ripple thanks to a flexible textile called dough dough. (The name pertains to the malleability of the clothes, not their high-end price tag.)

The material, the brand said, has shape memory that turns its wearer into "artist and creator." An oversize lapel on a gray wool coat-dress was scrunched into the shape of a cloud. A collar on a loose coat descended like a wilting tulip. A looseness defined many of the key looks. □

John Mayer launches foundation focused on veterans

By MESFIN FEKADU

NEW YORK (AP) — John Mayer is launching a foundation focused on improving the health of veterans through scientific research. The Grammy-winning singer on Friday announced The Heart and Armor Foundation, which plans to focus on veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and meeting the emerging needs of women veterans. Though he publicly announced the foundation on Friday, Mayer has been working on the organization since 2012 alongside veterans, scientists and clinicians.

"We're going to the public with things like published research papers and having raised enough money to really build some pilot programs. We have some really great data and ... we want it to be working first so that a lot of the questions were answered before we brought things to people by way of awareness," Mayer said in an interview with The Associated Press.



This June 27, 2017 file photo shows musician John Mayer in New York.

Associated Press

"I think it just makes it that much more compelling and much more concise to bring it to people with the message being, 'Hey, this is not taking something that is zero to try to get it to five.

This is something that is at 50 and we want to get it to 100."

Mayer, whose father was a World War II veteran, said part of the reason he started The Heart and Ar-

mor Foundation came after he visited the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in 2008.

"Now this was with a friend of mine, so I was just plus one and nobody knew

that the musician-guy was going. That gave me a really fluorescent look at what was going on in the barracks. It wasn't like they rolled out the red carpet for a celebrity, it was kind of a normal day," he said. "It was going to the wounded warrior barracks that I think changed me forever. It immediately showed me that my notion of what I think (are) the wounds of war are completely wrong. The way in which I was proven wrong was so compelling and fascinating and nuanced."

The foundation has released 10 publications in peer-reviewed journals, developed an exercise-based intervention for PTSD and created a screening tool for nutrition in women veterans, among other accomplishments.

"I've been in meeting after meeting where people ask, 'Where did you get the money to do this exercise study? Where'd you get the money?' I'm like, 'Well I'll tell you.' □

'The Sopranos' creators look back at a TV show that slayed

By MARK KENNEDY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Back in 1997, then-up-and-coming actor Michael Imperioli was mulling two work offers: a cable TV show pilot and a small role in a Woody Allen film.

The script for the TV show didn't initially seem so special to him. "I was not blown away by the pilot," he admitted. On the other hand, he had long admired Allen and was being offered a spot in his movie "Celebrity." Imperioli couldn't do both and was leaning toward doing the film. "That would have been the dumbest mistake of my life," he says now with a laugh.

The reason was simple: The TV show was "The Sopranos," which this year is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its premiere on HBO. The six-season show would win 21 Emmys and become the first cable series ever to win the Emmy for outstanding drama series. It also earned Imperioli an acting Emmy in 2004.

More than awards, the show about mid-level



This undated image released by HBO shows the cast of the hit series, "The Sopranos," from left, Tony Sirico, Steve Van Zandt, James Gandolfini, Michael Imperioli and Vincent Pastore.

Associated Press

gangsters in New Jersey proved that audiences could handle morally complex anti-heroes, paving the way for shows like "Breaking Bad" and "Mad Men," and marking the beginning of the time when TV started eating cinema's lunch.

Creator, showrunner and head writer David Chase says all he wanted to do was create a show that he and his friends would like to watch. He had toiled in frustration within the strict confines of network TV for years, on such shows as "The Rockford Files" and "Northern Exposure."

"I must admit that a lot of what I went into 'The Sopra-

nos' with was anger. I was angry about all my years in network TV. And I'm one of the lucky ones. I worked for some really talented people and with some really talented people," Chase says.

He recalled that a high-level executive at NBC had advocated for something called LOP, which stood for "least offensive program-

ming." Chase chafes at the notion: "It makes for a very bland mixture."

"The Sopranos" was anything but bland. It followed the depressed mafia boss Tony Soprano balancing his ruthless illegal business with raising a family. There was brutal violence, infidelity, pasta and loyalty and dishonor. James Gandolfini played Tony with equal parts ferocity and tenderness.

"To interact with him was to make a deal with the devil. You would be ethically compromised. And I sort of wanted to show how easily that happens, what that really means. At the same time, I didn't want to do a morality story," Chase says. "I guess the largest thing that I was trying to bring out was it's a pretty cold universe.

It's a very cold universe. But we have this thing called love which we can use against that. That's about the only weapon we have. That's where I found myself thinking a lot."

Chase wanted to make scenes longer if they needed to be — or shorter — and let his stories unfold slower than a network show. □

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Jaden Smith's foundation bringing clean water to Flint



In this May 22, 2018 file photo, Jaden Smith arrives at the 28th Annual EMA Awards at the Montage Beverly Hills in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

Associated Press
FLINT, Mich. (AP) — Jaden Smith's foundation and a church are working to

bring cleaner water to Flint, Michigan. The rapper's organization and First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

on Friday announced they'll deploy a mobile water filtration system known as "The Water Box" that reduces lead and other potential contaminants.

The 20-year-old's JUST goods company collaborated with the church to design and engineer the system. He is the son of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith.

The church has distributed over 5 million bottles of water to residents, but bottled water donations are on the decline. Flint has been replacing water lines after lead-tainted water was discovered in 2014. Lead began leaching from pipes after the city tapped the Flint River for drinking water without properly treating it to reduce corrosion. □

Andre Previn, Oscar-winning composer, has died at 89

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

Andre Previn, the pianist, composer and conductor whose broad reach took in the worlds of Hollywood, jazz and classical music, always rejecting suggestions that his bop 'n' blues moonlighting lessened his stature, died Thursday. He was 89.

His manager Linda Petrikova said Previn passed away in his Manhattan home.

His ex-wife Mia Farrow tweeted Thursday, "See you in the Morning beloved Friend. May you rest in glorious symphonies."

Previn was a child prodigy whose family fled Nazi Germany. As a teenager, he found work as a composer and arranger in the musical sweatshops of Hollywood, mostly at MGM, winning four Oscars for his orchestrations of such stylish musicals as 1964's "My Fair Lady."

Previn then abandoned Hollywood for a career as a classical conductor. He was named musical director of the Houston Symphony in 1967, and went on to lead such renowned orchestras as the Los Angeles Philharmonic and London's Royal Philharmonic.

In 1998, his opera based on "A Streetcar Named Desire" premiered at the San Francisco Opera.

Through his career, Previn continued to dip in and out of the jazz world. "I don't ever consciously change gears when I play jazz or classical," he once said. "It's all music."

Arguably, no one ever performed at so high a level in so many different genres of contemporary music. But Previn's versatility came at a price.

"Music critics have made it quite clear," he once said, "that any composer who ever contributed a four-bar jingle to a film was to be referred to as a 'Hollywood composer' from then on, even if the rest of his output were to consist solely of liturgical organ sonatas."

Previn became as close to a household name as anyone in his field — his fame burnished by his propensity for popping up in the gossip columns.



In this Sept. 1, 2004 file photo, conductor of the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Andre Previn, conducts the 15th symphony concert during the Lucerne Festival in the concert hall in Lucerne, Switzerland.

He married five times, including glittering collaborations with Farrow and violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter. He was among those in Hollywood who early on experimented with LSD, and his memoir of his movie-studio days, "No Minor Chords," contained juicy revelations about everyone from Lenny Bruce to Ava Gardner. The Korean orphan he and Farrow adopted, Soon-Yi, became the center of a tabloid scandal when she became involved with Farrow's then-boyfriend, Woody Allen, and eventually married him.

Previn never even heard jazz until he was a teenager. Born in 1929 into a wealthy Jewish family in Berlin, he was sent to eminent teachers to study classical music as his gifts became apparent. But the family was forced to flee Germany in 1938, moving briefly to Paris before traveling to the United States.

"I was purely classically trained," Previn recalled. "And then when I was a kid in Los Angeles, someone gave me a record of (pianist) Art Tatum playing 'Sweet Lorraine.' I was astonished and bewitched by it."

One of his father's cousins worked as a musical director at Universal Studios, and Previn soon latched on at

MGM.

While much of his Hollywood labors were spent on lesser films ("Challenge to Lassie," for one), the work gave him "a thorough schooling in the practical aspects of music making," he once told The Washington Post. He said it allowed him to "stand up in front of an orchestra of superlative players" and hone his conducting skills.

Hollywood also accorded Previn fame. He was nominated for 13 Academy Awards and won four. Besides "My Fair Lady," his Oscar-winning orchestrations included "Gigi" (1958), "Porgy and Bess" (1959) and "Irma La Douce" (1963).

After leaving Hollywood, Previn also turned away from jazz, partly because he feared it would diminish his credibility among classical musicians.

"I must say it probably crossed my mind. It's a cowardly confession. ... But the other thing is that once I quit Hollywood in '65, I really needed to get going as a classical conductor. I was very determined and ambitious and worked very hard." Jazz continued to exert an irresistible attraction, though. In 1995, after conducting every major orchestra in Europe, Previn returned to pop, recording an album of jazz treatments

of songs from "Show Boat," and an album of Jerome Kern songs with soprano Sylvia McNair.

"I missed some of my jazz musician friends very much and the atmosphere," he said. "I always liked improvising. During the time that I didn't play jazz, I always listened to it."

Previn and Farrow, his third wife, had three children and adopted three others during their high-profile union.

After Soon-Yi's affair with Allen became known in the early 1990s, Farrow bitterly criticized the filmmaker for initiating a relationship with the young woman when he had been a father figure to her for years. Allen and others countered that he had hardly known Soon-Yi while she was growing up and that Previn was not just a father figure, but her father.

"I would cheerfully run him over with a steamroller," Previn said of Allen, who eventually adopted two children with Soon-Yi.

In August 2002, at age 72, Previn married Mutter, the violinist who has been a classical music superstar since her teens. She was 39. In 2005, their recording of "Violin Concerto 'Anne-Sophie,'" which he wrote for her, won a Grammy for best instrumental soloist performance with orches-

tra (conducted by Previn). But the marriage ended in divorce in 2006.

Previn's second wife, Dory Previn, also has had a notable career as a singer and songwriter. She collaborated with Previn during their marriage on Oscar-nominated songs for the films "Pepe," 1960, and "Two for the Seesaw," 1962. After he left her for Farrow, she wrote about the experience in "Beware of Young Girls."

Previn's other wives were Betty Bennett and Heather Hales. Previn was born Andreas Ludwig Previn in Berlin. His father, Jack Previn, was a distinguished lawyer, but as it became clear that Jews were unwelcome in Hitler's Germany, Previn moved his wife, Charlotte, and their two sons to Paris.

A year later, the family left for Los Angeles.

In this country, Jack Previn was reduced to giving piano lessons, while 17-year-old Andre, after finding work at the film studio, assumed much of the burden of supporting the family.

Previn earned his first film credit as music director for "She's for Me" in 1943. He cut his first record three years later and began composing film scores three years after that.

In 1958, he won the first of his numerous Grammys for the sound track for "Gigi." In 1960 he was awarded a Grammy for best jazz performance for selections from "West Side Story."

He won the same award the next year for "Andre Previn Plays Harold Arlen." In 1998, he received the Kennedy Center's lifetime achievement award — with ex-wife Farrow reading a tribute at the televised ceremony.

"Ever since we first met, you have been a true and trusted friend to me. Thanks for the music, toots, and for the memories," she said.

Previn's longest stint as a principal conductor was the 11 years he spent with the London Symphony Orchestra from 1968-79. He made dozens of recordings with the LSO and other major orchestras. □

Associated Press

How SpaceX lowered costs and reduced barriers to space

By Wendy Whitman Cobb
Cameron University
Associated Press

On March 2, SpaceX plans to launch its first test of an unmanned Dragon vehicle which is designed to carry humans into low Earth orbit and to the International Space Station. If the test is successful, later this year, SpaceX plans to launch American astronauts from United States soil for the first time since 2011.

While a major milestone for a private company, SpaceX's most significant achievement has been in lowering the launch costs that have limited many space activities. While making several modifications to the fuel and engines, SpaceX's major breakthroughs have come through recovering and re-using as much of the rocket and launch vehicle as possible. Between 1970 and 2000, the cost to launch a kilogram to space remained fairly steady, with an average of US\$18,500 per kilogram. When the space shuttle was in operation, it could launch a payload of 27,500 kilograms for \$1.5 billion, or \$54,500 per kilogram. For a SpaceX Falcon 9, the rocket used to access the ISS, the cost is just \$2,720 per kilogram.

I'm a space policy analyst, and I've observed that cost has been a major hurdle limiting access to space. Since the 1950s, the high cost of a space program has traditionally put it beyond the reach of most countries. Today, state and private actors alike have ready access to space. And while SpaceX is not the only private company providing launch services – Orbital ATK, recently purchased by Northrop Grumman, United Launch Alliance and Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin are also players – it has emerged as the most significant.

SpaceX's achievements

Frustrated with NASA and influenced by science fiction writers, Elon Musk founded SpaceX in 2002. Though it suffered several setbacks, in 2008 it launched the first privately funded liquid-



In this Jan. 3, 2019 photo provided by SpaceX, the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and Crew Dragon spacecraft is rolled out to Launch Complex 39A for a dry run to prep for the upcoming Demo-1 flight test at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Associated Press

fueled rocket, the Falcon 1. Falcon 9 flew for the first time the next year, and in 2012, the Dragon capsule became the first privately funded spacecraft to dock with the ISS. SpaceX has since focused on recovering key parts of the Falcon 9 to enhance reusability and reduce costs. This includes the Falcon 9's first stage which, once it expends its fuel, falls back through the atmosphere reaching speeds of 5,200 miles per hour before reigniting its engines to land on

a drone recovery ship. In 2018 alone, SpaceX made 21 successful launches. The new Falcon Heavy rocket – a more powerful version of the Falcon 9 – launched in February. This rocket can lift 63,800 kilograms, equivalent to more than 27 Asian elephants, to low Earth orbit and 16,800 kilograms to Mars for just \$90 million. The test payload was Musk's own red Tesla Roadster, with a mannequin named Starman in the driver's seat. In addition to the crewed

Dragon tests this year, SpaceX is continuing development of its Starship, which will be designed to travel through the solar system and carry up to 100 passengers sometime in the 2020s. Musk has also suggested that the Starship could serve as the foundation for a lunar base.

Impact on space exploration

SpaceX's technical advances and cost reductions have changed the direction of U.S. space policy. In 2010, the Obama admin-

istration moved away from NASA's Constellation program, which called for the development of a family of rockets that could reach low Earth orbit and be used for long-distance spaceflight. With NASA falling significantly behind schedule, because of technological difficulties and budget cuts, the Obama administration was left with a choice of whether to boost funds for NASA or change direction. In 2010, then-President Barack Obama toured Kennedy Space Center and even met with Elon Musk to get a firsthand look at SpaceX's facilities. The administration chose to reorient the program to focus solely on deep space. For missions closer to home, NASA would purchase services from companies like SpaceX for access to low Earth orbit. Critics objected to budget cuts to NASA as well as concerns about whether the private sector would be able to follow through on providing launch services.

While NASA has struggled to develop its Space Launch System, an analysis from NASA's Ames Research Center found that the dramatically lower launch costs SpaceX made possible offered "greatly expanded opportunities to exploit space" for many users including NASA. The report also suggested that NASA could increase its number of planned missions to low Earth orbit and the ISS precisely because of the lower price tag.

In addition to substantially affecting human spaceflight, SpaceX has also launched payloads for countries including Kazakhstan, Bangladesh, Indonesia and, most recently, Israel. On Feb. 21, 2019, a Falcon 9 launched a privately built Israeli lunar lander which, if successful, will be the first privately built lunar probe.

Overall, SpaceX has significantly reduced the barriers to space, making it more accessible and democratizing who participates in space-based commerce and exploration. □



In this Dec. 18, 2018 photo provided by SpaceX, SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft and Falcon 9 rocket are positioned inside the company's hangar at Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, ahead of the Demo-1 unmanned flight test.

Associated Press